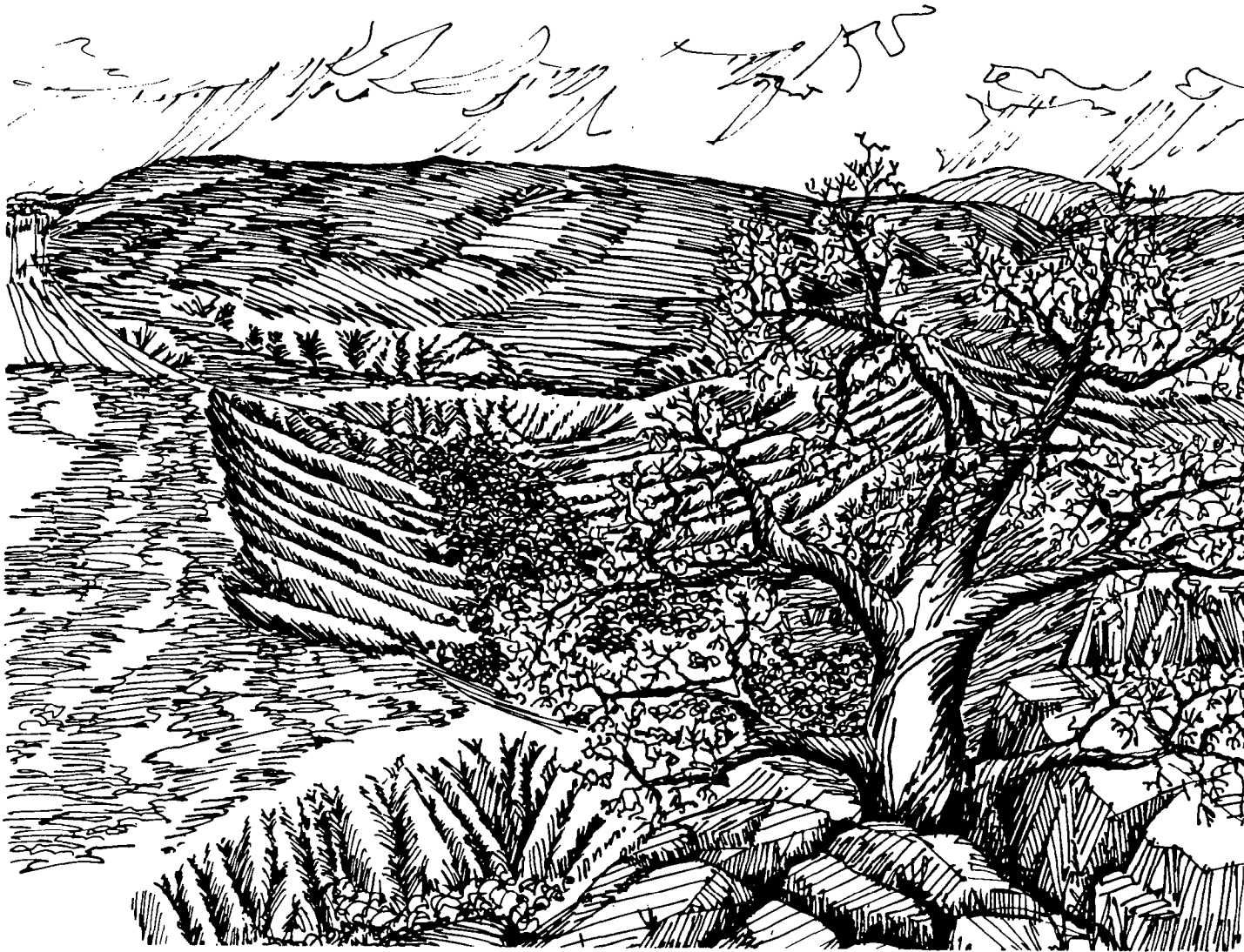


SAN JUAN/SAN MIGUEL PLANNING AREA

RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PLAN



**U.S. Department of the Interior
Bureau of Land Management
Montrose District, Colorado
SEPTEMBER 1985**





IN REPLY
REFER TO:

United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
San Juan Resource Area
Federal Building
701 Camino del Rio
Durango, Colorado 81301

December 1985

Enclosed is a copy of the final RECORD OF DECISION and SAN JUAN-SAN MIGUEL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PLAN (RMP). The final plan was announced in September 1985 and represents over two years of effort, including identification of issues, gathering of resource data, development of alternatives, and consideration of environmental impacts -- along with numerous opportunities for public review and comment.

The plan now becomes the basic guide for management of nearly one million acres of public lands administered by the Bureau of Land Management in southwestern Colorado.

We are pleased to provide this copy, with a map of the entire planning area, for your reference; and we extend our appreciation for your cooperation and assistance during the planning process.

Sincerely yours,

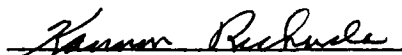
David J. Miller
Area Manager

Enclosure
San Juan-San Miguel RMP and Map

RECORD OF DECISION
FOR
SAN JUAN-SAN MIGUEL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PLAN
AND
FINAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT

Prepared by
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
MONTROSE DISTRICT, COLORADO
SAN JUAN RESOURCE AREA
AND
UNCOMPAHGRE BASIN RESOURCE AREA

September 1985

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Hanner Beckwith", is written over a horizontal line.

State Director

Colorado State Office

RECORD OF DECISION
San Juan-San Miguel Resource Management Plan
San Juan Resource Area
Durango, Colorado
and
Uncompahgre Basin Resource Area
Montrose, Colorado

This document records the decisions reached by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) for managing 994,000 surface acres of public land and 297,000 subsurface acres in the San Juan and Uncompahgre Basin Resource Areas.

Decision

The decision is hereby made to approve the attached plan as the resource management plan (RMP) for the San Juan Resource Area and a portion of the Uncompahgre Basin Resource Area. This plan was prepared under the regulations for implementing the Federal Land Policy and Management Act (FLPMA) of 1976 (43 CFR 1600). An environmental impact statement (EIS) was prepared for this plan in compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969. This plan is identical to the one set forth in the proposed plan and associated final EIS published in December 1984, except where the BLM Director made changes through decisions in response to various public protests.

Major Actions Included in the RMP/EIS:

- Seventy-one (71) Allotment Management Plans (AMPs) will be developed on approximately 810,000 acres. In the long term, livestock use is projected to increase to 73,601 AUMs or 13 percent above current active preference. The plan will result in beneficial, long-term impacts to livestock operators because of increases in livestock production.
- Wildlife habitat will be managed to support the current population levels of 20,000 deer and 1,600 elk, subject to the availability of manpower and funds to complete necessary wildlife habitat improvements. Pronghorn antelope should increase to 300 animals and the reintroduction of 300 bighorn sheep in the Dolores River Canyon will be allowed. Protective stipulations for threatened and endangered (T&E) species will be provided. Terrestrial wildlife habitat conditions should improve significantly, covering the majority of the planning area. T&E species will benefit from the provided protection.
- Aquatic and riparian habitat will be improved on the following rivers and their tributaries (in priority order): the upper San Miguel, the upper Dolores, and the lower San Miguel. Long-term positive impacts on 94 miles of aquatic and riparian habitat could be realized. Intensive livestock and wildlife management will improve an additional 306 miles of habitat.

- Management of the Silverton Special Recreation Management Area (SRMA) will continue. The Dolores River Canyon will also be managed as an SRMA. Recreation management plans for both SRMAs will be developed. The McElmo Research Natural Area will be designated; and the proposed mineral withdrawal of the area would be removed.

- The Dolores River Canyon Wilderness Study Area (WSA) (approx. 28,539 acres) will be recommended preliminarily suitable for wilderness designation. Cross, Cahone and Squaw/Papoose Canyons, Weber and Menefee Mountains, McKenna Peak, and Tabeguache Creek WSAs (approximately 73,971 acres) will be recommended unsuitable for wilderness designation. All eight WSAs will continue to be managed under BLM interim management policies for wilderness study areas until Congress reaches a decision on their final status.

- Ninety-three (93) percent of the total acreage available for oil and gas leasing will be open to development with standard lease stipulations. Approximately four percent will be open to development with additional lease stipulations calling for no surface occupancy and to protect wildlife, cultural resources, and recreation values. Less than three percent of the total acreage would be closed to leasing because of recommending the Dolores River Canyon WSA as suitable for wilderness. Approximately 34,000 acres (3%) of the area would be closed to mineral entry. An estimated 46,000 acres (amounting to 1.5 billion tons) of the Durango Known Recoverable Coal Resource Area (KRCRA) and 1,480 acres (or 26.6 million tons) of the Nucla KRCRA will be available for coal leasing; but the East Cortez KRCRA will not be available for leasing or development during the term of this plan.

- Designation of the 156,000-acre Anasazi Culture Multiple Use Area as an Area of Critical Environmental Concern (ACEC) will have long-term positive impacts to cultural resources. The plan will provide continued protection and management to important cultural sites and areas. Overall, long-term benefits will occur because of the protective withdrawals and stipulations to mineral development. Within this ACEC, a 440 acre area will be designated as the McElmo Research Natural Area. The Tabeguache Creek area will be designated as an Outstanding Natural Area.

- Land disposal actions (through sale, exchange, or title transfer) will be allowed on approximately 21,700 acres or 2.2 percent of the public lands in the planning area, resulting in long-term impacts that will improve the efficiency of management on all BLM-retained lands.

- Intensive timber management on approximately 10,960 acres will be provided. The estimated allowable harvest would be 6.5 million board feet (MMBF) per decade. An additional 42,130 acres will be managed to provide woodland products, allowing for an estimated allowable harvest of 6.4 MMBF (12,000 cords) per decade. Over the long term, improved management could result in increased wood fiber production.

- Intensive watershed management practices on approximately 65,000 acres will be implemented to reduce erosion and sediment yields. To reduce salinity in the Colorado River, 46,000 acres will be intensively managed. Long-term significant decreases in erosion, sediment, and salinity yields should occur; and municipal and domestic water sources would be protected.

- Off-Road Vehicle (ORV) use on public lands will be designated as: 79 percent open (782,000 acres); 11 percent limited (109,000 acres); and 10 percent closed (103,000 acres).

Major Modifications to the Final RMP/EIS:

- A wild horse herd consisting of an average of 50 horses will be maintained on the Spring Creek Basin rangeland. All wild horses will be removed from the Naturita Ridge area. This decision responds to a desire by the public to maintain a wild horse herd in southwestern Colorado, while minimizing conflicts with other resources and users of the public lands.

- The tract of public land along the Dolores River (T.48 N., R. 18 W., Section 11) will be removed from the disposal emphasis category. Multiple use benefits appear to be significant enough to maintain this tract in public ownership to be managed for those benefits.

- If wilderness status is not conferred on the Dolores River Canyon WSA by Congress, prescriptions for management of the Coyote Wash portion will be reassessed through the plan amendment process and associated public participation.

- The Coal Unsuitability Analysis report dated September 1984 will be revised as follows:

The exceptions listed under Criterion Number 16 on page 39 of the report are eliminated for all three areas. The exception analyses on page 41 are removed from the Nucla KRCRA and the heading "Exception Analysis" is removed from the Durango KRCRA. The paragraph under this heading for the Durango KRCRA is modified to read, "Pending additional information, the study areas should be considered suitable for further coal

lease consideration due to this criterion. Those portions of the area crossed by water sources supplying water to off-study area floodplains should be considered unsuitable for further coal lease consideration to the boundaries of the 100-year flood stage level."

"Any proposed activities in or adjacent to the floodplains will require approval from BLM on a site-specific basis after consultation with the U.S. Geological Survey."

The analysis portion of Criterion Number 19 on page 42, under the Durango KRCRA will be changed to read, "Those portions of the KRCRA falling within the above-mentioned alluvial valley floors should be designated unsuitable for surface mining operations, but should receive further consideration for coal leasing where mining operations would be by subsurface methods." The exceptions for all three areas on page 44 are eliminated. The exception analysis for all three areas are removed except the last paragraph under the Durango KRCRA will remain with the addition of the word "potential". It reads as follows, "Any proposed activity in or adjacent to the potential alluvial valley floors will require approval from BLM on a site-specific basis after consultation with the state of Colorado."

These modifications are a result of protests BLM received on the proposed plan.

Final plan decisions, terms, and conditions are described in detail in Chapter Two of the resource management plan.

Consistency

This plan is consistent with the plans, programs, and policies of other Federal agencies and of State and local governments.

Alternatives Considered

Four alternatives for managing the resources were considered: Current Management, Resource Conservation, Resource Utilization, and Preferred.

The Current Management Alternative emphasized current management direction, policies, and existing land use plans. It was the No Action Alternative required by the National Environmental Policy Act.

The Resource Conservation Alternative emphasized nonconsumptive natural resource values. This was the environmentally preferred alternative.

The Resource Utilization Alternative emphasized consumptive use of the resources in the planning area.

The Preferred Alternative (called the Proposed Plan in the Final Resource Management Plan and Environmental Impact Statement (RMP/EIS) dated December 1984) balances

competing demands by providing goods and services while protecting important environmental values.

Mitigation and Monitoring

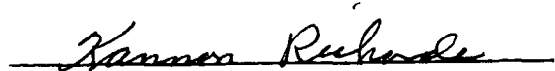
All practicable measures will be taken to mitigate adverse impacts. These measures are discussed in the plan and the final RMP/EIS. Mitigation measures will be strictly enforced during implementation. Monitoring will indicate how effective these measures are in minimizing environmental impacts. Additional measures to protect the environment may be taken during or following monitoring, if warranted.

Public Involvement

The views of the public have been sought throughout the planning and decision making process. Public participation in the process is summarized in Chapter One of the resource management plan.

SEP 5 1985

(Date)

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Kannon Richards", is written over a horizontal line.

Kannon Richards
Colorado State Director
Bureau of Land Management

SAN JUAN-SAN MIGUEL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PLAN

Prepared by

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

MONTROSE DISTRICT, COLORADO

SAN JUAN RESOURCE AREA

AND

UNCOMPAHGRE BASIN RESOURCE AREA

September 1985

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Thomas R. Richards", is written over a horizontal line.

State Director

Colorado State Office

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Chapter 1

INTRODUCTION

This plan contains the decisions on all land use proposals presented in the December 1984 final environmental impact statement. It describes, in general terms, the implementation, monitoring, and amendment processes.

The plan does not present information on environmental consequences, rationale, consistency, or the effects of the management. This information was previously covered in the draft and final environmental impact statements.

In addition to this plan, a rangeland program summary and a wilderness study report are being prepared. The wilderness study report will identify the preliminary recommendations for each wilderness study area. The report, along with a final environmental impact statement on the wilderness portion of the plan, will be submitted to Congress for action. The rangeland program summary will summarize the livestock grazing management program and grazing decisions reached through this plan and consultation with affected parties. The rangeland program summary will describe which selective management category each allotment falls into and give a proposed schedule for issuance of grazing decisions. It will also detail the studies and actions to be taken to determine proposed stocking rates for those allotments where stocking rates are not known.

PURPOSE AND NEED

In the late 1960s and early 1970s, the BLM conducted several planning efforts on small sub-units of what is now the San Juan-San Miguel Planning Area. These planning efforts resulted in several management framework plans (MFPs) that provided management direction for various resources and resource problems.

Because of new legislation, changing policies and new land use conflicts and opportunities, there was a need to consolidate, revise and update the decisions made in the old MFPs. This new planning effort replaced earlier MFPs, and included portions of the resource area not covered in previous planning efforts and is called a resource management plan (RMP).

The Bureau's principal authority to manage public lands is found in the Taylor Grazing Act of 1934, the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976, and the Public Rangelands Improvement Act of 1978. Through these authorities, BLM is responsible for managing resources on public lands in a manner that maintains or improves them.

This resource management plan is written in compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, the Council on Environmental Quality regulations and in specific response to litigation in the *Natural Resources Defense Council et al. versus Roger C. B. Morton et al.* 1973 (U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia, ref. Case No. 1983-73).

In addition to meeting the previously mentioned requirements, this plan satisfies the BLM's policy to (1) identify lands suitable for wilderness designation (the study phase of BLM's wilderness review process); (2) identify lands with potential for coal leasing (43 CFR, Part 3400); (3) respond to the court mandate (*Natural Resources Defense Council et al. versus Watt* (Civil Action 1983-75)) requiring the BLM to complete a livestock grazing environmental impact statement; (4) identify public land as open, closed, or limited for off-road vehicle (ORV) use (Executive Order 11989); and (5) manage and control wild horses and burros to "maintain a thriving natural ecological balance and multiple-use relationship" on the public lands (Wild Free-Roaming Horse and Burro Act of 1971).

The intent of this resource management plan is to anticipate and plan for the public needs from BLM lands in the San Juan and Uncompahgre Basin Resource Areas.

Unless otherwise specified, the decisions made in this land use plan apply only to public lands administered by the Bureau of Land Management.

SETTING

The planning area in southwestern Colorado considered in this RMP is comprised of public lands in Montrose, Montezuma, La Plata, Dolores, Archuleta, San Juan, San Miguel, and Mesa counties in Colorado. In addition, parts of Rio Arriba County, New Mexico, and San Juan County, Utah, are contained in the planning area. The area contains approximately 994,000 acres of public land, with an additional 297,000 subsurface (mineral) acres. The vast majority of the public lands are contained in the northwest and southwest portions of the planning area. The land pattern strongly influences land management options. The population of the area is centered in the southern portion of the area (Cortez and Durango) away from the large blocks of public land.

The San Juan Resource Area has total multiple use planning responsibility for the New Mexico portion of the planning area. The portions of San Juan County, Utah, in the planning area are Cross and Squaw/Papoose canyons, two wilderness study areas (WSAs) that are adjacent to Colorado's WSAs. Planning for these areas relates only to their suitability or unsuitability for wilderness.

IMPLEMENTATION

Decisions in this plan will be implemented over a period of years and must be tied to the BLM budgeting process. Therefore, priorities have been established for each resource to guide the order of implementation. The priorities for each program will be reviewed annually to help develop the annual work plan commitments for the coming year. The priorities

may be revised based upon new administrative policy, new Departmental directives, or new Bureau goals. The priorities of implementation are presented, by resource, in Chapter 2.

MITIGATION AND MONITORING

The resource management plan incorporates measures for mitigating undesirable environmental effects. These measures will be applied during implementation of the RMP. In some cases, additional mitigation will be applied during activity planning.

The effects of implementing the RMP will be monitored and evaluated on a periodic basis to assure the desired results are being achieved. Individual resources will be monitored as explained in Chapter 2 of this document. Monitoring will determine whether actions are consistent with current policy, whether original assumptions were correctly applied and impacts correctly predicted, whether mitigation measures are satisfactory, whether significant changes have been made in related plans of other Federal agencies or State and local governments, or whether new data is of significance to the plan. Monitoring will also help to establish long-term use and resource condition trends and provide valuable information for future planning.

MAINTENANCE

This plan will be maintained as necessary to reflect minor changes in data. Maintenance will be limited to refining or documenting a previously approved decision. It shall not expand the scope of resource uses or restrictions or change the terms, conditions, and decisions of the plan. Maintenance will be documented in supporting records. Formal public involvement will not be necessary to maintain the plan.

AMENDMENTS AND REVISIONS

This plan may be amended or revised if major changes are necessary. Monitoring and evaluation findings, new data, new or revised policy, a change in circumstances or a proposed action resulting in a change in the scope, terms, or conditions of the plan, would warrant an amendment or revision. An amendment will be analyzed either in an environmental assessment or an environmental impact statement. The public and other agencies will be included in the amendment and revision processes.

VALID EXISTING RIGHTS

This plan does not repeal valid existing rights on public lands. Valid existing rights are those claims or rights to public land that take precedence over the actions in this plan. As an example, a mining claim located prior to the preparation of this plan in an area withdrawn from mineral entry through the plan may be valid. Valid existing rights may be held by other Federal agencies or by private individuals or companies. Valid existing rights may also pertain to oil and gas leases, rights-of-way (ROWs), and water rights.

PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT AND INTERGOVERNMENTAL/INTERAGENCY COORDINATION

Public participation and consultation was encouraged and sought throughout the development of this plan. The planning process was officially initiated through a public notice in the January 5, 1980 Federal Register. This notice invited the general public as well as other Federal, State and local government agencies to identify major planning issues and to submit other comments or concerns regarding the planning effort to the BLM.

The final list of planning issues and criteria was sent to the public in the June 1983 issue of San Juan Resource Area Bulltin. Three meetings were held in June 1983 to discuss the grazing allotment categorization process with livestock users. A newsletter, with approximately 800 people on the mailing list, has been sent out quarterly since the spring of 1983 to keep the public informed of planning actions. Three public workshops were held in September 1983 to discuss the planning alternatives.

Numerous other coordination meetings, telephone calls, personal contacts, etc. were held to obtain recommendations and assistance in identifying issues, gathering data, and analyzing the impacts of alternative land uses.

The draft RMP/EIS was filed with the Environmental Protection Agency on April 20, 1984. Notice of availability of the draft document and a series of public hearings was published on April 25, 1984 in the Federal Register. The public was also provided 90 days (April 28 to July 28) in which to comment on the draft RMP/EIS. The following public hearings were held to obtain public input into wilderness recommendations.

Durango, Colorado	June 25
Cortez, Colorado	June 26
Nucla, Colorado	June 27
Golden, Colorado	June 28
Monticello, Utah	July 2

A total of 124 written and verbal comments were received during the 90 day comment period. Responses were prepared and published in the final EIS and proposed RMP.

Notice of availability of the final EIS including the proposed plan was published on December 14, 1984, in the Federal Register. This notice announced a 30 day protest period from December 14, 1984 to January 14, 1985. The Bureau received 55 protests to the plan, 49 dealing with the wild horse issue and six dealing with other aspects of the plan. All protests were resolved through decisions by the Director to each of the protestors.

ADMINISTRATIVE ACTIONS

Administrative actions are the day-to-day transactions required to serve the public and to provide optimal use of

the resources. These actions are in conformance with the plan and their continued implementation will not result in significant environmental impacts. These and other administrative actions will be conducted at the resource area, district, or State office. The degree to which these actions are carried out will be based upon BLM policy, available personnel, and funding levels.

Chapter 2

RESOURCE DECISIONS

INTRODUCTION

This chapter describes the proposed actions contained in the final resource management plan/environmental impact statement (RMP/EIS). It outlines the decisions on all the land use recommendations including rationale proposed in the Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS). It also contains, by resource program, monitoring, implementation priorities, and required support.

The implementation priorities will guide the order in which projects are implemented. These priorities will be tied to the budget process. The number one priority for each resource will always be to maintain its base program. This includes funding normal operating costs, completing administrative duties, and responding to public inquiries. The plan outlines monitoring programs for evaluating the effectiveness of plan proposals such as forage allocations and wildlife improvements. Monitoring will determine whether assumptions were correctly applied and impacts correctly predicted. Monitoring will also help to establish long-term use and resource condition trends for the resource area, and will provide valuable information for future planning. Support will show what assistance will be necessary from other resources, job skills, and agencies to implement the planned actions described in the resource management plan.

Appendix One contains the multiple use emphasis area descriptions which will be used as the guidelines for management of the planning area. Inserted in this plan is the final map for the planning area showing the multiple use emphasis areas.

LIVESTOCK GRAZING MANAGEMENT

Resource Objectives

General. The planning area is a complex ecosystem composed of plant and animal communities and basic soil types, all responsive in one way or another to natural processes such as rain, wind, sunlight, and man's activities. No single element in the range ecosystem is so readily managed and with such far reaching effects as is vegetation. Consequently, maintaining or improving the vegetation component of this ecosystem is the key to enhancing the resource values of the planning area to permit a balanced mix of uses to ensure sustained yield. The components of the rangeland program are familiar ones; they have been part of the program for some years. The main emphasis of the range program is considered in the following components:

Allotment Categorization. All grazing allotments in the planning area have been assigned to one of three management categories based on present conditions, potential for improvement, whether other resource conflicts exist, and what opportunities exist for positive economic return on public investments. The management category for an allotment may

be changed when resource conditions change, or when new data becomes available.

The "M" category allotments generally will be managed to maintain current satisfactory resource conditions; "I" allotments generally will be managed to improve resource conditions; and "C" allotments will receive custodial management to prevent resource deterioration.

Planned Management Actions

Allotment-Specific Management Actions for the Improvement ("I") Category. Multiple use management actions have been developed for each allotment in the "I" category (see Appendix Nine in the Draft RMP). Future management actions, including developing AMPs, will be tailored to meet these objectives after consultation with livestock operators.

Allotment Management Plans (AMPs). Implementing the recommended actions for the planning area is guided by a series of functional activity plans, which include habitat management plans (HMPs) for wildlife, and AMPs for livestock grazing. Each plan explicitly details planned programs and management actions designed to accomplish proper land and resource management for the full mix of public uses. Specifically, AMPs, prepared in consultation, cooperation, and coordination with the operator or other affected interests, are documents which prescribe the manner in and extent to which livestock grazing is conducted and managed to meet multiple use, sustained yield, economic and other needs and objectives as determined through the land use plan. Existing AMPs will be revised as necessary and new AMPs developed on 71 priority allotments (see Table 1).

Monitoring. A detailed monitoring and evaluation plan has been completed. This allotment-specific plan specified the type, frequency, and schedule for monitoring and evaluation. This plan is available in the San Juan Resource Area Office. When undesirable and unintended changes in resource values are discovered and the causes are determined, corrective action will be taken. BLM Manual 4430 and regulations discuss the applications of rangeland monitoring in more detail.

Livestock Use Adjustments. Livestock use adjustments are most often made by changing one or more of the following: the kind or class of livestock grazing the allotment, the season of use, the stocking rate, or the grazing pattern. While most livestock use adjustments will occur in the "I" allotments, use adjustments may also occur for allotments in "C" and "M" categories.

Approximately 64,200 animal unit months (AUMs) may be authorized to 176 permittees in the short term until agreements are reached or decisions are made on grazing

capacity. All livestock use adjustments will be implemented through documented mutual agreement or by decision. When livestock use adjustments are implemented by decision, it will be based on operator consultation, range survey data, and resource monitoring. Current BLM policy emphasizes the use of a systematic monitoring program to verify the need for livestock adjustments proposed on the basis of one-time inventory data.

The Federal regulations that govern changes in allocation of livestock forage provide specific direction for livestock use adjustments (43 CFR 4110.3-1 and 43 CFR 4110.3-2). The regulations (43 CFR 4110.3-3) specify that permanent increases or suspensions of preference "shall be implemented over a five year period unless, after consultation with affected interests, an agreement is reached to implement the adjustment in less than five years.

If data acceptable to the BLM Area Manager are available, an initial reduction shall be taken on the effective date of the decision. The balance of the reductions would be taken in the third and fifth years following the effective date of the decision. If data are not available to support the initial reduction, a decision will be issued identifying the data needed and procedures to be used for arriving at the adjustments. Adjustments based on the additional data shall be implemented by agreement or decision that will initiate the 5-year implementation period.

Range Improvements. Typical range improvements and the general procedures to be followed in implementing them are described in Appendix Nine-F in the Draft RMP. The extent, location, and timing of such actions will be based on the allotment-specific management objectives adopted through the AMP process, interdisciplinary development and review of proposed actions, contributions from operators and others, and BLM funding capability.

All allotments in which range improvement funds are to be spent will be subjected to an economic analysis, which will be used to develop a final priority ranking of allotments to commit the range improvement funds that are needed to implement activity plans.

Grazing Systems. Types of systems to be implemented will be developed in cooperation with the livestock operator and based on considering the following factors: allotment-specific management actions (see Appendix Nine-D and Nine-I-1 in the Draft RMP); resource characteristics, including vegetation potential and water availability; general management actions; operators needs; and implementation costs. Typical grazing systems available for consideration are described in Appendix Nine-C in the Draft RMP.

Unallotted Tracts. Unallotted tracts generally will remain available for future livestock grazing, as provided for in the BLM grazing regulations (43 CFR 4110 and 43 CFR 4130). However, certain tracts not currently authorized for grazing use will remain unallotted.

Critical Grazing Period

Spring use by domestic livestock in select "I" category allotments will not be permitted on native ranges during the critical period of early growth unless a grazing system is implemented that provides critical period rest once every three years, or a spring use pasture is developed to absorb grazing use in meeting the rest requirements. Grazing use during any portion of the critical period will be limited to no more than 30 percent of the active preference and no more than 50 percent utilization of key forage species' current season growth. See Table 1 for specific periods by allotment.

Rationale

Current policy directs the BLM to focus available funding and manpower on those areas where problems and conflicts exist. The inventory conducted in preparation for this RMP was designed to assess the current condition and identify problem areas. From the information available, each allotment was placed in one of three categories: "I" Improve, "M" Maintain, or "C" Custodial. Attention will be focused on the "I" allotments with second priority on those "M" allotments where less critical problems exist and finally the "C" allotments when conflicts arise.

This action which is the same as the Proposed Plan described in the Final RMP/EIS for the range program, was selected to achieve the resource area's range management goals in a reasonable period of time with acceptable environmental impacts.

Implementation Priorities

1. Continue the routine range management program in the resource areas (issuance of permits and bills, transfers, day to day business, etc).
2. Achieve the grazing management resource objectives as stated previously under Resource Objectives and Recommendations in this document. This is dependent upon receiving sufficient funding to complete range improvements and adequate staffing to implement grazing systems, supervise grazing use and monitoring resource changes.
3. First priority for rangeland improvements will be given to "I" category allotments with "M" and "C" category allotments being of a lower priority. Implementation priority is subject to change based upon changes in resource conditions, project redesign, or private contributions by individual operators.

Table 1. Summary of Allotments

Allot. no.	Allotment name	Mgmt. status	Total public acres	Critical period
The following allotments suitable for Cattle, Horses, or Sheep.				
7000	Upper Disappointment	M	1,996	
7001	Mailbox Park	I	6,611	4/15 - 5/15
7002	Gypsum Gap	I	2,895	4/15 - 5/15
7003	Lee Lands	C	2,062	
7004	Dolores Canyon	M	2,891	
7005	Salt Arroyo	I	10,956	4/15 - 5/15
7006	Gyp Ridge	I	3,155	4/15 - 5/15
7007	Uncompahgre Bench	M	13,702	
7008	Twenty-five Mesa	I	5,373	4/15 - 5/15
7009	East Summit Mesa	C	119	
7010	Wickson Draw	I	4,441	4/15 - 5/15
7011	Ayers Individual	M	4,593	
7012	Lion Canyon	C	313	
7013	San Miguel River	C	937	
7014	Mesa Creek	I	60,257	4/15 - 5/15
7015	Bush Canyon	M	4,997	
7016	Dry Creek Basin	I	38,486	4/15 - 5/15
7017	McKenna Peak	M	1,025	
7018	Maverick Draw	I	1,993	4/15 - 5/15
7019	Summit Point	C	1,691	
7020	Roc Creek	C	1,268	
7021	Rawlings Individual	C	353	
7022	Burn Canyon	I	1,788	4/15 - 5/15
7023	Sharp Canyon	I	162	
7024	Lillylands-West	M	2,387	
7025	Island Mesa	I	25,180	5/1 - 5/30
7026	La Sal Creek	C	179	
7027	Coke Ovens	I	7,660	4/15 - 5/15
7028	Warden Draw	I	4,225	5/1 - 5/30
7029	Lone Mesa	M	1,421	
7031	Tabeguache Creek	I	17,912	4/15 - 5/15
7032	Sawtooth	I	23,236	4/15 - 5/15
7033	Buckeye	M	835	
7034	Slick Rock	I	26,831	4/15 - 5/15
7035	Naturita Ridge	I	10,555	4/15 - 5/15
7036	Disappointment	I	61,515	4/15 - 5/15
7037	Davis Mesa	I	2,956	4/15 - 5/15
7038	Spud Patch	M	9,150	
7039	Ute Ranch	I	33,275	4/15 - 5/15
7040	Pinion	C	541	
7041	Young-DOW	I	12,237	
7042	Dobie Canyon Individual	I	2,647	4/15 - 5/15
7043	South Mountain	C	881	
7044	Lion Creek Basin	M	5,247	
7045	Horse Park	I	6,647	4/15 - 5/15
7046	Indian Valley	I	18,346	4/15 - 5/15
7047	Home Bench	C	1,496	
7048	Wray Mesa	I	48,797	4/15 - 5/15
7049	Desert Claim	C	1,680	
7050	Plateau	C	353	

Table 1. Summary of Allotments (cont.)

Allot. no.	Allotment name	Mgmt. status	Total public acres	Critical period
7051	Belmeear Mountain	C	411	
7052	Ryman Creek	C	621	
7053	Bull Canyon	I	34,165	4/15 - 5/15
7054	Taylor	C	3,740	
7055	Nelson	I	3,229	5/1 - 5/30
7056	Spring Creek	I	16,630	4/15 - 5/15
7057	RCA	I	17,255	4/15 - 5/15
7058	Warden Draw	C	260	
7059	Beards Corner	C	880	
7060	Beaver Canyon	C	840	
7075	Lavender Exchange of Use	C	1,169	
7076	Houser	M	3,163	
7077	First Park	C	148	
7078	Feedlot	C	510	
7079	River	C	1,300	
7080	Rowher Canyon	C	680	
7081	Swain Bench	I	5,422	4/15 - 5/15
7085	Pocket Individual	C	1,375	
7086	Horse Bench	C	610	
7087	Colombo	C	215	
7088	Sundown	C	1,743	
7100	Carpenter Ridge Common	M	7,135	
7101	East Paradox Common	I	16,255	3/1 - 4/15
7102	Sunrise Gulch Common	C	1,597	
7103	Third Park Common	M	4,270	
7104	Spencer Lake	C	920	
7105	Second Park	C	750	
7106	Tuttle Draw	C	1,231	
7107	Coal Canyon	M	5,391	
7200	River	C	2,225	
7201	Lillylands	I	7,136	4/15 - 5/15
7202	Upper Maverick Draw	C	488	
7203	Naturita Canyon	C	630	
7204	Beaver Rim	C	67	
7205	Leopard Creek	C	391	
7206	McKee Draw	I	1,562	4/15 - 5/15
7207	Big Bear Creek	C	542	
7208	Upper Mail Box	M	1,429	
7209	Hamilton Mesa	C	410	
7210	Little Maverick Draw	M	1,078	
7211	Beaver Canyon	C	314	
7212	Unallotted	C	120	
7213	Unallotted	C	500	
7214	Rinconc	C	2,280	
7215	Cone	M	3,243	
7216	San Miguel Rim	M	679	
7217	Sawpit Individual	C	1,194	
7218	Norwood Hill	C	144	
7219	Bolinger Ditch	C	349	

Table 1. Summary of Allotments (cont.)

Allot. no.	Allotment name	Mgmt. status	Total public acres	Critical period
7220	Williams Ditch	C	57	
7221	Duroy	C	3,244	
7222	Coventry	I	841	4/15 - 5/15
7223	Little Baldy	M	1,900	
7224	High Mesa	M	992	
7225	Oak Hill	C	42	
7226	Summer Camp Creek	C	120	
7227	Redvale	C	402	
7251	Sawdust Gulch	C	280	
7252	Buck Canyon	C	10	
7253	Alder Creek	C	120	
7300	Dry Park	I	4,112	4/15 - 5/15
7301	Horsefly Common	M	449	
7302	Uncompahgre Common	M	387	
7303	Barkelew Draw Common	I	5,971	4/15 - 5/15
7305	Beaver Mesa	M	1,143	
7306	Unallotted	C	560	
8000	Unallotted	C	80	
8002	Squaw Canyon	I	4,765	4/15 - 5/15
8003	Big Canyon	I	1,916	4/15 - 5/15
8004	Dolores River	I	18,334	4/15 - 5/15
8005	Sheep Point AMP	M	4,541	
8006	Todd Individual	C	488	
8007	Cross Canyon	I	29,528	4/15 - 5/15
8008	Unallotted	M	788	
8009	Hovenweep Canyon	I	6,122	4/15 - 5/15
8011	Lower McElmo	I	8,662	4/15 - 5/15
8012	Cahone Mesa AMP	M	22,925	
8013	Individual	I	22,699	4/15 - 5/15
8014	Alkali	M	794	
8016	McCabe	C	40	
8017	Weber Canyon	C	40	
8018	Yellowjacket	I	5,727	4/15 - 5/15
8019	Cannonball	I	2,829	4/15 - 5/15
8020	Burro Point AMP	I	9,519	4/15 - 5/15
8021	Rock Creek	M	2,443	
8022	Sand Canyon	C	377	
8023	Sand Canyon	C	2,264	
8024	Trail Canyon	M	5,173	
8025	Aztec Canyon	M	1,830	
8026	Mathias	C	218	
8027	Gawith	C	1,017	
8028	Mud Creek	C	1,979	
8029	Hurst	C	370	
8030	Bement	C	480	
8031	Noland	C	260	
8032	N. Menefee Mountain	C	505	
8033	Veatch	I	6,135	4/15 - 5/15
8034	Willow Creek	C	880	

Table 1. Summary of Allotments (cont.)

Allot. no.	Allotment name	Mgmt. status	Total public acres	Critical period
8035	Hamilton Mesa	I	7,577	4/15 - 5/15
8036	Schuster	C	294	
8037	Ute Mountain	C	334	4/15 - 5/15
8038	Monument	C	620	
8039	Lower Aztec Canyon	M	500	4/15 - 5/15
8040	Unallotted	M	972	
8041	Burro Individual	M	327	4/15 - 5/15
8042	Mancos River	M	899	
8043	West Weber Mountain	C	3,227	4/15 - 5/15
8044	Unallotted	C	708	
8045	Doerfer	C	975	4/15 - 5/15
8046	East Canyon	C	2,350	
8047	Flint Rock Point	C	340	4/15 - 5/15
8048	Redd Lease	M	3,294	
8049	Ayers	C	200	4/15 - 5/15
8050	Unallotted	C	100	
8052	Individual	M	2,567	4/15 - 5/15
8053	Mesa Verde	M	5,585	
8055	Goodman Gulch	C	319	4/15 - 5/15
8056	Individual	C	40	
8057	Yellowjacket Canyon	I	2,563	4/15 - 5/15
8058	Plateau Creek	C	890	
8059	Davis	C	40	4/15 - 5/15
8061	Robb Individual	C	30	
8063	Sandrock	M	6,276	4/15 - 5/15
8064	Upper Trail Canyon	C	160	
8065	Papoose Canyon	M	1,085	4/15 - 5/15
8066	Flodine Park	I	4,723	
8067	Unallotted	C	487	4/15 - 5/15
8068	Snyder	M	1,199	
8070	Dove Creek AMP	M	3,520	4/15 - 5/15
8400	Canby	C	86	
8401	Mahan	M	639	4/15 - 5/15
8402	Unallotted	C	440	
8403	Boggs	M	2,187	4/15 - 5/15
8404	Greer	C	579	
8405	Montoya	C	227	4/15 - 5/15
8406	Scott Individual	C	40	
8407	Huntington	C	714	4/15 - 5/15
8408	Patcheck	C	343	
8409	Lightner	M	633	4/15 - 5/15
8411	Jenkins	C	80	
8412	Palmer	C	745	4/15 - 5/15
8413	Cherry Creek	M	618	
8414	Unallotted	C	360	4/15 - 5/15
8415	Elderado	C	270	
8416	Florida River	C	857	4/15 - 5/15
8417	Unallotted	C	170	
8418	Unallotted	C	250	4/15 - 5/15
8419	Unallotted	C	210	

Table 1. Summary of Allotments (cont.)

Allot. no.	Allotment name	Mgmt. status	Total public acres	Critical period
8420	Unallotted	C	92	
8427	Unallotted	C	414	
8428	Unallotted	C	280	
8429	Wallace Gulch	M	1,847	
8430	Former Keyes	C	160	
8431	Unallotted	C	400	
8432	Mankins	C	200	
8435	Unallotted	C	566	
8437	Unallotted	C	26	
8438	Dutton Park	C	40	
8439	Unallotted	C	240	
8440	Unallotted	C	160	
8443	Individual	C	160	
8444	Coyote Park	C	80	
8445	Coyote Park	C	80	
8446	Gomez	M	400	
8447	Archuleta Mesa	C	160	
8448	Archuleta Mesa	M	1,309	
8449	Manuel Cruz Estate	C	91	
8450	Section 15	M	746	
8451	Bigbee Brothers	M	831	
8452	Chromo Mountain	M	430	
8453	Martinez	C	46	
8454	Bramwell	C	215	
8455	Individual	C	160	
8456	Vigil-Abeyta	M	1,317	
8457	Upper Vigil	M	232	
8458	Crowley	C	200	
8460	Canby	C	40	
8461	Section 15	C	133	
8462	Section 15	M	931	
8463	Vigil Mesa	M	1,052	
8464	Macht	C	40	

The following allotments suitable for Horses or Sheep only.

*8900	Cement Creek	M	4,181
*8901	Gladstone	M	2,325
*8902	Eureka	M	6,221
*8903	Animas River	M	3,072
*8904	Unallotted	M	1,377
*8906	Molas Lake	M	1,876
*8907	Deer Park	M	5,082
*8908	American Basin	M	2,650
*8909	Minnie Gulch	M	3,100
*8910	Elk Creek	M	949
*8911	Maggie Gulch	M	6,100

*Silverton allotments were previously covered in the Gunnison Basin-American Flats/Silverton EIS 1982. Source: BLM Data 1984.

WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT

The Federal Land Policy and Management Act (FLPMA) of 1976 chartered BLM with the responsibility of maintaining or enhancing the fish and wildlife habitats that occur on the public lands.

Resource Objectives

Bureau-wide the BLM operates under a number of general wildlife habitat management objectives. Each objective is mandated and/or supported by specific Federal regulation or legislation. The BLM wildlife habitat management program places special emphasis on, but is not limited to the protection, maintenance and enhancement of:

Crucial habitats for big game, upland game birds and waterfowl.

Crucial habitats for nongame species of special interest and concern to state or other Federal agencies.

Wetland and riparian habitats.

Existing or potential fisheries habitat.

Habitat for state or Federally listed threatened and/or endangered species.

These commitments to the wildlife resources may vary by the level of effort devoted to each element within the program. The level of effort undertaken annually is dependent upon national priorities and the availability of funding and manpower to effectively complete the workload.

The level and intensity of wildlife habitat management activities presented in this action have been selected based on feasibility, opportunity, need and associated impacts by other resource programs.

Fish and wildlife habitat will continue to be evaluated on a case-by-case basis as a part of project level planning. Such evaluation will consider the significance of the proposed project and the sensitivity of fish and wildlife habitat in the affected area. Stipulations will be attached as appropriate to assure that projects are compatible with management objectives established in the RMP for fish and wildlife habitat. Habitat improvement projects will be implemented where necessary to stabilize and/or improve unsatisfactory or declining habitat condition. Such projects will be identified through habitat management plans (HMPs) or coordinated resource management activity plans.

Seasonal Restrictions. Seasonal restrictions will continue to be applied where they are needed to mitigate the impacts of human activities on important seasonal wildlife habitat. The major types of seasonal wildlife habitat and the time periods when restrictions may be needed are shown in Table 2.

Threatened, Endangered, and Sensitive Species Habitat. No activities will be permitted in threatened,

endangered, or sensitive species habitat that would jeopardize their continued existence.

The Colorado Division of Wildlife (CDOW) and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) will be consulted prior to implementing projects that may affect threatened and endangered species' habitat. If such a situation is determined through the BLM biologic assessment process, then consultation with the USFWS will be initiated as per Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended.

Table 2. Seasonal Wildlife Restrictions

Habitat	Restricted period
Elk and mule deer winter range	12/1 - 4/15
Elk calving grounds	5/1 - 7/15
Eagles' winter concentration area	12/1 - 4/15
Sage grouse strutting grounds	3/15 - 5/15
Peregrine Falcon Habitat	3/1 - 9/1

Planned Actions

Terrestrial Wildlife Habitat. Sufficient forage and cover will be provided for wildlife on their seasonal habitat. Forage and cover requirements will be incorporated into AMPs and will be specific to primary wildlife use areas. Generally, range improvements will be designed to achieve both wildlife and range objectives.

A goal of this land use plan (subject to the availability of manpower and funds to complete necessary wildlife habitat improvements) will be to manage the habitat for current levels of deer and elk (20,000 and 1,600, respectively). Monitoring the vegetative resource may indicate wildlife reductions may be needed in localized areas to maintain use within the carrying capacity. The reductions may be shared with domestic livestock depending on monitoring results. Manage for 300 head of pronghorn antelope and allow for reintroducing (not to exceed a total of 300) bighorn sheep in the Dolores River Canyon. Continue present management of Perins Peak and Paradox peregrine falcon eyries. Provide protective oil and gas leasing stipulations for bald eagle roosts and winter eagle concentration areas. Reintroduce river otters in the upper Dolores River. Complete necessary improvements and HMPs necessary for implementation. The following riparian areas should be managed to improve aquatic and/or riparian habitat; Roc, North Mesa, South Mesa, La Sal and Dry creeks; the East and West forks of Dry Creek Canyon; and Cross, Cow, Cahone, Hovenweep, and Bridge canyons.

Aquatic and Riparian Habitat. Objectives to protect or improve aquatic and riparian habitat will become part of AMPs and HMPs. Management actions within flood plains and wetlands will include measures to preserve, protect, and, if necessary, restore their natural functions (as required by Executive Orders 11988 and 11990). Management techniques will be used to minimize degradation of aquatic and riparian

habitats. Bridges and culvert installations will be designed to maintain adequate passages for fish. Wildlife reintroductions and fish stocking proposals will be evaluated and recommendations will be made to the CDOW.

Improve aquatic and riparian habitat on these areas listed in priority order: the upper San Miguel River and its tributaries (44 miles), the upper Dolores River and its tributaries (30 miles), and the lower San Miguel River and its tributaries (20 miles). Develop needed HMPs and improvements for implementation (including monitoring plans).

Habitat Management Plans

Development of habitat management plans for key species and their related habitat will occur over the term of the plan. Completion of these plans will be dependent upon need, availability of funding, and manpower. Several key habitats in which plans might be developed include: big game winter ranges; winter raptor concentration areas; aquatic/riparian habitats; bighorn sheep habitat; pronghorn antelope habitat; and threatened and endangered (T&E) species habitat. Priority will generally be given to the development of a habitat management plan for T&E species.

Rationale

Management of wildlife habitat will generally be maintained or enhanced throughout the planning area by the implementation of this plan. T&E species will be protected and the habitat generally enhanced through the implementation of habitat management plans. Funding and manpower appear to be the major limiting resource. At present funding levels it would require 20 years to implement the management program outlined in the RMP.

Monitoring

All monitoring will be conducted according to BLM manuals and policies. A detailed wildlife monitoring plan has been developed for the planning area and is available in the BLM Montrose District and San Juan Resource Area offices.

Implementation Priorities

1. Monitor, maintain or improve sensitive habitats for threatened or endangered species. Upon identification of an occupied habitat area or introduction of any T&E species into an area, a Habitat Management Plan would be initiated as funding is available.

Monitor, maintain or improve crucial winter ranges for pronghorn antelope, elk, and mule deer focusing initially on the "I" and "M" category grazing allotments.

Monitor, maintain or improve known, active fisheries habitat. This effort will focus initially on the San Miguel and Dolores rivers and their major tributaries.

Monitor, maintain or improve winter raptor concentration areas.

2. Maintain all existing wildlife habitat improvement facilities. This effort will focus on guzzlers, exclosures, and vegetation treatments.

3. Maintain or improve riparian habitat to good or excellent ecological condition, utilizing acceptable grazing systems and fencing where needed.

4. Initiate development of new wildlife habitat management plans and related enhancement projects.

Support

Monitoring for all wildlife species will be closely coordinated with the CDOW and the USFWS. Any action having a potential effect on T&E species habitat will be brought to the attention of the USFWS, who will be consulted to render an opinion in accordance with Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act.

Development of habitat management plans for terrestrial and aquatic species will be closely coordinated with CDOW, the U.S. Forest Service, and where appropriate USFWS.

Project development will require input from all resource programs to assess impacts through the environmental process. Purchasing support, contracting, survey, design, and project inspection support will be required.

RECREATION

Resource Objectives

General. A wide range of outdoor recreation opportunities will continue to be provided for all segments of the public, commensurate with demand. Trails and other means of public access will continue to be maintained and developed where necessary to enhance recreation opportunities and allow public use. Developed recreation facilities receiving the heaviest use will receive first priority for operational and maintenance funds. Sites that cannot be maintained to acceptable health and safety standards will be closed until deficiencies are corrected.

Recreation opportunities will continue to be evaluated on a case-by-case basis as a part of project level planning. Such evaluation will consider the significance of the proposed project and the sensitivity of recreation resources in the affected area. Stipulations will be attached as appropriate to assure that activities are compatible with recreation management objectives. Development will only occur when an identified need cannot or is not being provided by the private sector.

Travel Planning and Motorized Vehicle Use. Travel planning, including the designation of areas open, limited, and closed to motorized vehicle access, will remain a priority for public land. Public land within areas identified as open to motorized vehicle use generally will remain available for such use subject to existing laws and regulations. Public land within areas identified as limited to motorized vehicle use generally

will receive priority attention. Major limited categories include: areas limited except for existing (or designated) roads (or ways) and trails, and other limitations as needed by management objectives.

Public land within areas identified as closed to motorized vehicle use will be closed yearlong to all forms of motorized vehicle use. Exceptions may be allowed in WSAs based on applying BLM's *Interim Management Policy* (BLM Revised, July 12, 1983).

Planned Actions

Continue intensive recreation management of the Silverton Special Recreation Management Area (SRMA). Provide for a blend of settings and opportunities that tend toward the resource-dependent end of the BLM's Recreation Opportunity Spectrum (ROS) system. Allow local communities to provide for facility-dependent settings and opportunities. Provide increased semiprimitive, motorized opportunities with some primitive, semiprimitive, nonmotorized, and roaded natural settings and management objectives. Continue off-road vehicle (ORV) management in the Silverton SRMA as per existing management framework plan (1981). Develop and implement a recreation area management plan (RAMP) for the Silverton SRMA that outlines specific needs for recreation resource, visitor, and facilities management.

Manage the Dolores River Canyon as a SRMA as per classifications determined by BLM's ROS system. Manage the Dolores River from the Bradfield Bridge to Dove Creek pump station for its semiprimitive nonmotorized recreation setting opportunities and from Dove Creek pump station to Disappointment Creek for its semiprimitive motorized setting opportunities. Also manage the river from Disappointment Creek to Gypsum Valley Bridge for its rural setting opportunities and from Gypsum Valley Bridge to Bedrock for its primitive ROS values and settings. Determine carrying capacities for the river corridor consistent with specific ROS setting classifications. Develop a RAMP for the river that outlines specific management goals, objectives, and specific recreation resource, visitor, and facilities management needs.

Manage Weber and Menefee mountains for their semiprimitive recreation values. Both areas would be closed to ORVs and managed under VRM Class II standards.

The McElmo Research Natural Area will be managed for research values but revocation of the mineral withdrawal will occur. No surface occupancy stipulations for oil and gas leasing will be continued.

Implement an off-road vehicle management program as per that described in Appendix Three.

Rationale

Implementation of the recreation management plans for the Dolores River and Silverton SRMAs will provide for much

needed management of these special resources. Available funding and personnel are currently inadequate to manage the resource and provide public facilities.

Monitoring

The condition of the recreation lands and sites will be periodically inspected to determine levels of resource damage occurring. Visitor use will be sampled using various methods, including road and trail counters and visitor registers. Recreation area management plans will be reviewed periodically to determine if revisions are necessary due to changing conditions.

Implementation Priorities

The Special Recreation Management Areas (Dolores and Silverton) will be the first priority for available funding and personnel. The Extensive Recreation Management Area will receive second priority for funding.

Support

Cooperation and coordination with the U.S. Forest Service, U.S. Bureau of Reclamation, and counties will be required to implement the RAMPs. Project development will require input from all resource programs to assess impacts through the environmental process. Additionally, purchasing support, contracting, survey, design, and project inspection support will be required.

WILDERNESS

Section 603 of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 directs the Secretary of the Interior to review areas of 5,000 acres or more of the public lands determined to have wilderness characteristics and to report to the President his recommendations as to the suitability of each area for preservation as wilderness. The Secretary is required to report his recommendations to the President by October 21, 1991, and the President is required to report his recommendations to Congress by October 21, 1993. Congress ultimately decides whether to designate areas as wilderness.

Completion of this Record of Decision for the San Juan/San Miguel Final RMP/EIS approves the planning decisions for all resources, however, all wilderness study areas (WSAs) covered in this RMP will be addressed further in a separate legislative Final EIS and wilderness suitability report (WSR) to be transmitted to the Secretary of Interior. The Secretary signs a Record of Decision when he signs and transmits that WSR to the President.

Resource Objectives and Planned Actions

This plan recommends 28,539 acres of Dolores River Canyon be recommended preliminarily suitable for wilderness designation. The remaining seven WSAs (Tabeguache Creek, McKenna Peak, Squaw/Papoose, Cross, and Cahone Canyons, Weber and Menefee mountains) are recommended as unsuitable for wilderness designation. Table 3 displays the WSAs and acres for each WSA.

Table 3. Wilderness Suitability Recommendations

Study area	Acreage recommended preliminarily suitable	Acreage recommended nonsuitable
Cahone Canyon (CO-030-265D)		9,040
Cross Canyon (CO-030-265; UT-060-229)		12,742
Dolores River Canyon (CO-030-290)	28,539*	913
McKenna Peak (CO-030-286)		19,562
Menefee Mountain (CO-030-251)		7,129
Squaw/Papoose Canyon (CO-030-265A; UT-060-227)		11,287
Tabeguache Creek (CO-030-300)		7,908
Weber Mountain (CO-030-252)		6,303
Total	28,539	74,844

*This figure includes 822 acres added for manageability.

If Congress selects this proposal, multiple use management (as further defined for the appropriate emphasis areas) will become the resource management objective for the seven nonsuitable WSAs. In the Dolores River Canyon, the objective will be to manage the area to preserve the wilderness values while allowing other resource uses only where such use will not cause damage to or loss of wilderness values. Pending Congressional action, all WSAs will be managed under BLM's Interim Management Policy.

Rationale

Suitable—Dolores River Canyon WSA. If wilderness status is not conferred on the Dolores River Canyon WSA by congress, prescriptions for management of the Coyote Wash portion will be reassessed through the plan amendment process and associated public participation. The Dolores River Canyon WSA is being recommended as preliminarily suitable for wilderness designation, primarily because it possesses highly outstanding characteristics for primitive and unconfined recreation, solitude, and naturalness, as well as scenic grandeur and superb wilderness characteristics. It is a nationally unique area and is worthy of preservation in its natural state. The nationally significant values associated with Dolores River Canyon WSA include:

- (1) Formerly a Wild and Scenic River candidate as recommended by an interagency study report in 1976 and recommended to Congress for protection on several occasions;
- (2) Outstanding primitive and unconfined recreation opportunities associated with the river, canyons, and mesas;
- (3) Unique plant and animal communities found within the WSA that contain threatened and endangered species habitat; and

- (4) Extremely diverse topography and geology that create outstanding scenery, vistas and excellent solitude opportunities.

This unique combination of factors, found only in the Dolores River Canyon WSA, creates the specific need and rationale for BLM to recommend this area as preliminarily suitable for wilderness designation.

A total of 28,539 acres is recommended. The boundaries are those shown for the Wilderness Manageability Alternative and Preferred Alternative in the Draft *Wilderness Technical Supplement* (April 1984). A wilderness management plan will be developed following the area's designation by Congress.

Nonsuitable—Specific Rationale—Cross, Cahone, and Squaw/Papoose Canyon WSAs. Cross, Cahone, and Squaw/Papoose canyon WSAs are recommended as nonsuitable for wilderness designation based on the following reasons:

- (1) All three WSAs have manageability problems because of numerous pre-FLPMA oil and gas leases, encumbering an average of approximately 42 percent of the public land within these WSAs; they also contain numerous mining claims. There is a moderate to high probability that some of the pre-FLPMA leases or mining claims will be developed during the term of the plan.
- (2) They do not contain nationally significant values (scenery, T&E habitat, and recreation) unique enough for wilderness designation. Although their cultural resources are unique, these cultural values, along with the other primary values identified (roadless, wildlife, etc.), will be properly managed in consonance with other resources including livestock grazing, aquatic/riparian habitat, and minerals.

Nonsuitable—Specific Rationale—Weber and Menefee Mountain, McKenna Peak, and Tabeguache Creek WSAs. Weber and Menefee mountains, McKenna Peak, and Tabeguache Creek WSAs are recommended as nonsuitable for wilderness designation based on the following reasons:

(1) The values contained in each area (i.e., scenery, wildlife habitat, etc.) are not nationally significant enough for inclusion in the National Wilderness Preservation System (NWPS). While they may be locally or, in some cases regionally important, to be suitable for recommendation, BLM feels these areas should contain a substantial amount of nationally significant values to be recommended for inclusion in the NWPS.

(2) The management proposed by BLM is the most appropriate use of the land and would protect the sensitive resources found in each area. (3) The majority of the primary values identified (roadless, visual, wildlife habitat, etc.) by the public can be managed in a nonwilderness alternative management scheme through professional application of the principles of multiple use management.

(4) Weber Mountain WSA has four pre-FLPMA oil and gas leases with known oil and gas production (a known geologic structure for oil and gas is located at its northern boundary), which raises concerns as to its future management. Developing these leases (which has a low to moderate probability to occur) would severely affect the values contained in the area.

(5) Tabeguache Creek WSA is a sensitive area ecologically and archaeologically. Protecting the wildlife and archaeological values can be accomplished by designating the canyon as an Outstanding Natural Area (ONA). Recreation use may be incompatible with this proposed management direction. Visitor use of the area may be limited only to educational and scientific purposes; a management plan will be written after the area is designated an ONA and will consider those uses. The integrity of the main canyon will also be protected by an ORV closure and no surface occupancy stipulations for oil and gas leasing.

(6) These four WSAs would not significantly expand wilderness opportunities within a day's driving time of major population centers, because there are significant designated wilderness areas in the immediate region (see Appendix Three-A of the *Draft Wilderness Technical Supplement*).

These seven areas met the basic definition of WSAs and were therefore identified as WSAs; however, they do not contain nationally significant values to the same degree, extent, or combination of those found in the Dolores River Canyon WSA, or other WSAs previously recommended in Colorado's BLM districts.

Therefore, it is BLM's recommendation that these seven WSAs do not warrant inclusion into the NWPS; they would be managed under BLM's Interim Management Policy for WSAs until the wilderness review process is completed. If recommendations presented in this Final EIS are adopted, the

areas would be managed as follows.

WSA	Recommendations
1. Cahone Canyon	Cultural resources, livestock grazing, aquatic/riparian habitat improvements, oil and gas leasing (primarily no surface occupancy stipulations) and ORV closures.
2. Cross Canyon	Same as Cahone Canyon.
3. McKenna Peak	Watershed and wildlife values, livestock grazing, and ORV restrictions (existing road and trails).
4. Menefee Mountain	Recreation (semiprimitive, nonmotorized), wildlife values, ORV closures, and oil and gas leasing (primarily no surface occupancy stipulations).
5. Squaw/Papoose Canyon	Same as Cross and Cahone canyons.
6. Tabeguache Creek	Cultural resources, aquatic/riparian values, oil and gas leasing (primarily no surface occupancy stipulations) and ORV closures.
7. Weber Mountain	Same as Menefee Mountain.

Monitoring

Until Congress makes its decision on whether or not to designate an area as wilderness, BLM's Interim Management Policy will be followed and the WSAs will be patrolled periodically to detect and prevent unauthorized actions which could impair the suitability of such areas for preservation as wilderness. Following Congressional action, a wilderness management plan will be prepared for any area designated as wilderness and a monitoring plan will be included.

Implementation Priorities

None

Support

Routine checks will be conducted in conjunction with other activities. Mineral surveys by the U.S. Geological Survey and the U.S. Bureau of Mines will be required for WSAs recommended as preliminarily suitable for wilderness designation as requested by the BLM Director. Fire management support will be needed for management of natural fire in meeting the resource objective.

MINERALS MANAGEMENT

Energy and Minerals Program

The following principles will guide BLM in managing mineral resources on public lands (per BLM instruction Memorandum No. 84-568, dated June 28, 1984).

1. Except for Congressional withdrawals, public lands shall remain open and available for mineral exploration and development unless withdrawal or other administrative action is clearly justified in the national interest.

2. BLM actively encourages and facilitates the development by private industry of public land mineral resources so that national and local needs are satisfied and economically and environmentally sound exploration, extraction, and reclamation practices are provided.

3. BLM will process mineral patent applications, permits, operating plans, mineral exchanges, leases, and other use authorizations for public lands in a timely and efficient manner.

4. BLM's land use plans and multiple use management decisions will recognize that mineral exploration and development can occur concurrently or sequentially with other resource uses. BLM further recognizes that land use planning is a dynamic process and decisions will be updated as new data are evaluated.

5. Land use plans will reflect geologic, energy, and mineral values on public lands through more effective data assessment of those values.

6. BLM will monitor saleable and leasable mineral operations to ensure proper resource recovery and evaluation, production verification, diligence and inspection, and enforcement of the lease, sale, or permit terms. BLM will ensure receipt of fair market value for minerals commodities unless otherwise provided for by statute.

7. BLM will maintain effective professional, technical, and managerial personnel knowledgeable in mineral exploration and development.

Resource Objectives

Oil and Gas Leasing. As a general rule, public land is available for oil and gas leasing. In many areas, oil and gas leases will be issued without special lease stipulations. In highly sensitive areas, where special stipulations or information notices are not sufficient to protect important surface resource values, no surface occupancy stipulations will be implemented. Stipulations and information notices are located in Appendix Two.

Locatable Minerals. All public land is open to mineral entry and development unless previously withdrawn (i.e., wilderness, administrative withdrawals, etc.). Mineral exploration and development on public land will be regulated under 43 CFR 3800 to prevent unnecessary and undue degradation of the land.

Common Variety Mineral Materials. Applications for removing common variety mineral materials, including sand and gravel, will continue to be processed on a case-by-case basis. Stipulations to protect important surface values will be

attached based on interdisciplinary review of each proposal.

Coal. The Federal coal leasing process is just beginning with completion of this land use plan. A site-specific activity plan for lease tracts will then be developed. This site-specific data will be used in a regional coal EIS or leasing by application that will be developed to identify impacts and mitigations.

Coal Unsuitability Criteria and Surface Owner Consultation

BLM is required to review areas containing Federal coal to determine which lands are unsuitable for all or certain stipulated methods of coal mining. BLM procedures for assessing unsuitability are defined in the planning regulations (43 CFR 1601.6-6) and coal regulations (43 CFR 3461). The 20 criteria addressing unsuitability for the surface mining of coal were applied to the Nucla, East Cortez, and Durango Known Recoverable Coal Resource Areas (KRCRAs; see Tables 4 and 5). The Nucla KRCRA includes 2,080 acres; East Cortez KRCRA, 2,840 acres; and Durango KRCRA, 143,780 acres (82,440 acres, BLM; 61,340 acres, U.S. Forest Service). The complete assessment report is available in the San Juan Resource Area Office.

Surface owners in the planning area, located along the coal outcrop from Durango to the Lemon-Vallecito area, were consulted for their preferences for or against surface mining on their lands where the Federal government holds the mineral estate.

The responses indicating opposition to surface mining expressed varying concerns, including water quality, maintaining the natural setting, other general environmental factors, and numerous private homes and subdivisions located over the mineral resources. More than 80 percent of surface owners contacted (in the Texas Creek, Bear Creek, Wilson Gulch, and Los Pinos River areas—all east of Durango) were opposed to surface mining of Federally owned coal. Federal regulations require that, where a significant number of surface owners in an area have expressed a preference against surface mining, that area shall be considered acceptable for further consideration only for development by underground mining techniques. At the present, these areas will be considered as unsuitable for future surface mining due to surface owner preferences. The area involved is all private surface/Federal minerals and surface mineable coal; it represents less than 1.4 percent of the Durango KRCRA.

Planned Actions

Continue oil and gas leasing subject to environmental stipulations. Lands open to development without special lease stipulations will be provided on approximately 1,196,000 acres; lands open to development with lease stipulations (no surface occupancy) on approximately 29,000 acres (see Appendix Two).

Continue cooperative management to protect surface resources on the Department of Energy (DOE) uranium lease tracts. Provide for necessary permits for sand and gravel, including possibly 400 acres of Ewing Mesa. Provide protective stipulations to protect the unique fossils in the Placerville area. Approximately 1,480 acres in the Nucla KRCRA (26.6 million tons) and 46,000 acres in the Durango KRCRA (1.5 billion tons) would be available for further consideration for coal leasing.

The East Cortez KRCRA presently will not be available for coal leasing; it will be managed under a wildlife emphasis. This area did not receive an expression of interest when a call was made in 1983. The coal present is not of sufficient quality and quantity to be more than locally significant. BLM is also focusing the possible future coal development in other areas where previous coal development has occurred. The wildlife values are significant due to adjacent private land development. The KRCRA could still be considered for leasing in the future, subject to a plan amendment being completed or its being reevaluated in a future RMP revision.

Rationale

This action was selected because it will allow the BLM to comply with the multiple use mandates established by FLPMA and the 43 CFR 1600 regulations governing multiple use planning. Furthermore, it will allow the BLM to comply fully with the Surface Mining Coal Reclamation Act (SMCRA) and the 43 CFR 3400 regulations established to govern the Federal coal management program. This type of management will allow the oil and gas industry a reasonable opportunity to lease and explore, while protecting the various other resources present and provide a greater degree of protection for especially sensitive areas.

Monitoring

BLM will monitor restrictions placed on any mineral (coal, oil and gas) activities within the resource area.

Implementation Priorities

Due to the lack of knowledge where development may occur, no implementation priorities will be developed.

Support

Cadastral survey support will be needed to locate land boundaries. Cultural reports will be required on all coal, oil and gas leases. District or State office support will be required where stipulations are to be applied.

CULTURAL RESOURCES

Resource Objectives

In addition to specific areas identified in the plan alternatives, cultural resources will continue to be inventoried and evaluated as part of project level planning.

Recommendations will be generated from the evaluations and will consider all impacts to the proposed projects and the important cultural resources in the affected areas. Stipulations will be attached to assure that projects are compatible with management objectives for cultural resources. Avoidance will continue to be the primary measure used.

Planned Actions

Manage the Anasazi Heritage Center as a cultural resource focal point for BLM in southwestern Colorado as an integral part of San Juan Resource Area's Cultural Resource Program. Provide for cultural management of Lowry, Dominguez-Escalante, and Cannonball ruins; McLean Basin Towers; Squaw/Papoose, Bull, Sand, Cahone, Cross, and East Rock canyons; Painted Hand Ruin and Petroglyphs; Dolores Cave; Tabeguache Pueblo and Tabeguache Canyon; Indian Henry's Cabin; Hanging Flume, Lightning Tree Tower Group; and Hamilton, Cow, and Mockingbird mesas. Cultural Resource Management Plans (CRMPs) should be developed to outline specific management objectives for each site or area.

Provide protective oil and gas (no surface occupancy) stipulations on Sand, Cahone, Cross, Squaw/Papoose, Tabeguache, and East Rock canyons; Cannonball, Easter, Seven Towers, Lowry, and Dominguez-Escalante ruins, Lightning Tree Tower, Battle Rock, Hovenweep buffer, McLean Basin Towers and Painted Hand Petroglyphs. Withdraw from mineral entry and provide for no surface occupancy for oil and gas leasing on Painted Hand Ruin, Dolores Cave, Tabeguache Pueblo, Bull Canyon Rockshelter, and Indian Henry's Cabin.

Limit public access in Mockingbird Mesa, Bull Canyon, and Indian Henry's Cabin to foot or horse only and restrict vehicle access to authorized vehicles only. Close Cross, Cahone, and Squaw/Papoose canyons to all ORV use. Acquire easement into Sand Canyon and administrative access into Cannonball Mesa and Yellowjacket Canyon.

Manage Tabeguache Canyon as an Outstanding Natural Area. The area will be closed to ORVs and no surface occupancy stipulations will be provided in the immediate canyon.

Rationale

Management of these nationally significant cultural resources is a major program in this planning area. Protection, interpretation, and stabilization of these resources will be undertaken as funds and personnel are available.

Monitoring

The cultural resources will be monitored through the use of patrols during heavy public use periods and, if needed, law enforcement agents to protect the resource from vandalism. Periodic aircraft flights, ground and vehicle patrols will be used year-round to reduce or prevent pothunting. Major sites will be periodically inspected to document damage and anticipate future stabilization needs.

Table 4. Unsuitability Criteria for Surface Coal Mining (Summary)

Criteria no.	Criteria name	Exception application	Unsuitable acres		
			Durango KRCRA	Nucla KRCRA	East Cortez KRCRA
1	Federal Land Systems	No			
2	Rights-of-Way	Yes			
3	Buffer Zones	Yes			
4	Wilderness	Yes	10,440		
5	Scenic Federal Lands	No			
6	Scientific Study Areas	No			
7	Cultural Resources	Yes			
8	Natural Areas	No			
9	Federally Endangered Species	Yes			160
10	State Endangered Species	Yes			
11	Eagle Nest Sites	Yes			
12	Eagle Concentration Areas	Yes			
13	Falcon Nest Sites	Yes			
14	Migratory Birds	Yes			
15	State Resident Fish & Wildlife	Yes			
16	Floodplains	No	1,240	280	
17	Municipal Watersheds	No			
18	National Resource Waters	No			
19	Alluvial Valley Floors	No	1,240*	280*	560
20	State Proposed Criteria	No			
	Surface Owner Consultation			1,720	
	Total unsuitable acres (with no duplication)		13,400	280	720
	Total acres in KRCRA		143,780	2,080	2,840
	Percent of total KRCRA		9	13	25

*Same acreage as shown in No. 16. Source: BLM Data 1983.

Table 5. Areas Unsuitable for All Methods of Mining (Summary)

Criteria no.	Criteria name	Acreage		
		Durango KRCRA	Nucla KRCRA	East Cortez KRCRA
4	Wilderness	10,440		
16	Floodplains		280	
19	Alluvial Valley Floors		280*	560
	Total acreages with no duplication	10,440	280	560
	Percent of total KRCRA	7	13	20

*Same acreage as shown in No. 16. Source: BLM Data 1983.

Implementation Priorities

1. Continue to implement the base program for the cultural resources (i.e., field clearances, issue permits, etc.).
2. Complete monitoring of resources to limit damage to cultural resources.
3. Implement stabilization to prevent deterioration of cultural resources.
4. Complete and implement management plans for the significant sites identified in the area.

LANDS PROGRAM

Resource Objectives

Land Tenure Adjustments. Public land will be made available for land sales or exchanges or both. Disposal of the public lands may be accomplished by sale, exchange, State Indemnity Selection, or title transfer pursuant to any applicable Federal authority. Transfers to other public agencies will be considered where management efficiency would result. Adjustments involving sales or exchanges or both may be permitted.

Certain parcels (according to FLPMA) of public land will be considered for sale, exchange or title transfer when (1) the lands are determined to be not needed for a Federal project or a resource management activity; (2) retention of the lands is not in the national interest; or (3) management of the lands by BLM is not cost efficient.

The various criteria for land ownership adjustments will be considered in land reports and environmental assessments prepared for specific adjustment proposals. The criteria for adjustments is both legislatively required and resource oriented. Major factors to be evaluated include; threatened and endangered and sensitive species habitat; wetland and riparian areas; fisheries; nesting and breeding habitat for critical wildlife; key big game habitats (seasonal); developed recreation sites and recreation access; municipal watersheds; energy and potential for minerals; sites that are eligible for inclusion on the National Register of Historic Places; legal land surveys, wilderness and areas being studied for designation as wilderness; and other statutorily authorized designations.

Other factors include degree of public access; the amount of public investments in facilities or improvements and the potential for recovering those investments; difficulty or cost of administration; the degree of suitability for management by another Federal agency; significance in stabilizing local business, social and economic conditions, and lifestyles; authorized land users, including Recreation and Public Purposes (R & PP) leases, withdrawals, or other leases or permits.

Two more factors are: (1) consistency with cooperative agreements and plans of other agencies, and (2) suitability and need for change in land ownership including community

expansion or economic development, such as industrial, residential, or agricultural (other than grazing) development.

Land Laws and Policies. The lands program in the planning area is primarily concerned with the authorization of uses on the public lands by others, including private parties, state, county, and other federal agencies. The objective is to ensure compatibility of the various multiple uses with environmental protection of natural resources.

New Withdrawals. Process new withdrawals on a case-by-case basis, using existing guidance to determine if formal withdrawal is needed.

Withdrawal Review. Reviewing other agency withdrawals that will be continued, modified, or revoked will be completed by 1991. Upon revocation or modification, part or all of the withdrawn land will revert to BLM management. Current BLM policy is to minimize the acreage of public land withdrawn from mining and mineral leasing, and, where applicable, to replace existing withdrawals with ROWs, leases, permits, or cooperative agreements.

Utility and Transportation Corridors. In general, public land is available for utility and transportation corridor development, however, applicants will be encouraged to locate new facilities within existing corridors to the greatest extent possible. Public land within areas identified as unsuitable will not be available for utility and transportation corridors. Deviations from existing corridors may be permitted based on considering: types of and needs for the proposed facilities; conflicts with other resource values and uses, including potential values and uses; and availability of alternative routes and(or) mitigation measures.

Access. BLM will make every reasonable effort to provide primary access to private landowners (via FLPMA Rights-of-Way) when such access will not cause significant, adverse impacts to other resources. County road standards will be required when the resource manager feels environmental impacts can in no other way be mitigated. However, BLM will not grant additional rights-of-way when reasonable access already exists unless there is a compelling public need.

When a number of potential landowners could benefit from road or vehicle access across the public lands, counties and private developers will be encouraged to develop public access in such areas.

Planned Actions

Through sales, exchanges, or any other title transfer means, dispose of approximately 21,700 acres throughout the planning area, as indicated on the Plan Map; this includes small, unmanageable, isolated parcels of land with limited public value scattered throughout the area and Archuleta Mesa.

Rationale

Adjustment in the pattern of public land and minerals ownership within the resource area will: (1) allow for more efficient and economic management; (2) facilitate acquisition of lands with higher public values and uses; and (3) facilitate implementation of other recommendations within this and other planning documents.

Monitoring

Land tenure adjustment actions are monitored through the use of environmental assessments, which are written on every proposed action. In addition, a 60-day public comment period is required between the notification of a land disposal action and the actual disposal.

Implementation Priorities

Public land actions will be accomplished according to the following priority:

(1) Take action (by exchange, sale or other methods) on those exchange and sale proposals currently on file that meet disposal and/or acquisition objectives previously described.

(2) Dispose of (by exchange, sale or other methods) those lands identified as suitable for transfer.

Support

Support, including completion of cadastral surveys, appraisal reports, mineral reports, water rights reports, and cultural resource surveys will be needed for parcels of public land identified for disposal, and those lands which the Bureau seeks to acquire.

WILD HORSE MANAGEMENT

Resource Objectives and Planned Action

The BLM has determined it would be reasonable to manage a wild horse herd with an average number of 50 horses on the Spring Creek Basin area and to totally remove all wild horses from the Naturita Ridge herd area. Public opinion strongly supports this decision. The Spring Creek Basin herd, to range in numbers between a low of 35 and a high of 65 animals, would be compatible with multiple use objectives for the area and would not inflict significant, adverse effects on the vegetation, soils and water resources once a herd management plan was in place. This herd would supplement public viewing opportunities of the Little Bookcliffs and Sand Wash Basin herds.

Rationale

Managing this one herd with animal numbers controlled would be a reasonable investment of public funds, would not cause significant environmental degradation, and would provide public viewing opportunities.

Monitoring

Monitoring will continue, both animal and resource, prior to and after a herd management plan is implemented.

Implementation Priorities

Totally remove the Naturita herd and remove excess animals from the Spring Creek Basin area as soon as funds and personnel are available.

Support

Support will be needed by BLM personnel to contract the removals, feed the horses after removal, and to place the horses in the Adopt-A-Horse program. In addition, support will be needed to manage the horses and implement the herd management plan.

TIMBER MANAGEMENT

Resource Objective

Public land within forest management areas will be available for a full range of forest management activities. Major forest activity plans generally will be required prior to initiating those activities in such areas. Pending completion of the activity plan, timber and woodland stand treatments will be evaluated by an environmental assessment and implemented on a case-by-case basis.

Forested areas within other emphasis areas will also be available for a full range of forest management activities; plans will be modified to be compatible with the management emphasis areas. Firewood harvesting will be permitted on most accessible forest land available for harvesting forest products.

Planned Actions

Provide intensive timber management on approximately 10,960 acres. Estimated allowable harvest would be 6.5 MMBF per decade. An additional 42,130 acres would be managed to provide woodland products (firewood, posts, poles, etc.). Estimated allowable harvest would be 6.4 MMBF (12,800 cords) per decade.

Rationale

This action will allow continued small negotiated sales and occasional advertised sales to meet the local demand for timber products. This type of timber management will allow a reasonable harvest of timber products while protecting other resource values such as watershed and wildlife habitat.

Monitoring

Monitoring will consist of annual inspections of forested lands for possible trespass and designated protection areas for possible insect infestations or disease epidemics. Areas of intensive timber management will be monitored after harvest to ensure that areas are reforested within the five years allowed.

Implementation Priorities

Commercial forest and protection area designations made in this plan will become effective upon its approval.

Saw timber, firewood, post and pole sales and road construction are examples of specific actions to be taken. The majority of these sales will be negotiated sales. Manuals, policy and District Office guidance on small timber sales will offer specific direction for implementing these actions. Implementation priorities are as follows:

1. Monitor designated protection areas.
2. Investigate all trespass and epidemics reported by resource area personnel and take appropriate action.
3. Attempt to accommodate requests made by the public for the sale of forest products.
4. Prepare and advertise timber sales identified in the annual work plan.

Support

Cadastral survey and engineering support will be needed on an intermittent basis for the purpose of design and layout of timber sales and access roads. Fire protection support will be needed to protect the forest values. On occasion, acquisition of legal access to public land will be needed to open areas to commercially harvest forest lands.

SOIL AND WATER MANAGEMENT

Resource Objective

Soil and water resources will continue to be evaluated in activity planning or on a case-by-case basis as part of project level planning. Such an evaluation will consider the significance of the proposed projects and the sensitivity of soil and water resources in the affected areas. Stipulations will be attached as appropriate to ensure compatibility of projects to soil and water resource management. Soils will be managed to maintain productivity and to minimize erosion.

Water quality will be maintained or improved in accordance with State and Federal laws and approved standards, including consultation with State agencies on proposed projects that may significantly affect water quality. Management actions on public land within municipal watersheds will be designed to protect water quality and quantity. Management activities in aquatic and riparian areas will be designed to maintain or, where possible, improve riparian habitat condition. Roads and utility corridors will avoid aquatic and riparian areas to the extent practicable.

Planned Actions

Provide protective management on 4,700 acres in the Boulder Gulch watershed to protect water quality for Silverton. Protect water quality in aquifers used for domestic and

municipal purposes in the Dry Creek Basin and Tabeguache Creek watersheds.

Manage 65,000 acres in the following watersheds to reduce erosion and sediment yield: Disappointment, Big Gypsum, and Paradox valleys and Dry Creek Basin. Manage 46,000 acres in Disappointment Valley to reduce salt (salinity) loading into the Colorado River.

Develop watershed management plans for all accelerated erosion, salinity, riparian, and other water quality improvement areas detailing specific management goals and actions. Reclaim five pollution sources (for heavy metals) in the Upper Animas River drainage.

Rationale

The protection of municipal watersheds, reductions in erosion and salinity levels, and improvement of water quality are all actions which compliment the BLM's laws, regulations, and policy concerning conservation of our national resources.

Monitoring

All monitoring will be conducted according to BLM policy and manuals subject to available funding and personnel.

Implementation Priorities

Recommendations concerning municipal watersheds will go into effect upon approval of the plan. All other actions will be completed as funds and personnel are available.

AREA OF CRITICAL ENVIRONMENTAL CONCERN (ACEC)

Resource Objectives and Planned Actions

The public land west of Cortez (approx. 156,000 acres) is designated as an ACEC. Private lands within the ACEC would not be affected by the proposed designation. The Anasazi Culture Multiple Use Area contains important cultural, mineral, recreation, range, backcountry values, and wildlife resources. It represents the focus of the northern Anasazi development, with more than 100 sites per square mile in many areas, representing the highest known archaeologic site density per acre of any area in the nation. The total number of sites on public lands here is estimated at nearly 20,000, many covering 10 acres or more. Large oil and gas and CO₂ reserves (Sand Canyon KGS) are also contained within the area. Private industry has made a multimillion dollar investment in these CO₂ resources, with a project life of more than 30 years. The public land within the ACEC provides forage used by livestock and wildlife. The increased mineral development presents a challenge to BLM to provide high quality habitat for livestock and wildlife dependent upon public lands. Population growth places increased pressure for recreation pursuits on public lands. These opportunities need to be provided, while emphasizing cultural and mineral values.

Management of the public lands within the ACEC will

be intensified under this proposal. Detailed activity plans will be developed, closer monitoring of the surface-disturbing activities will be undertaken, and additional manpower and money will be requested to more intensively manage this significant area.

Rationale

Designation of the Anasazi Culture Multiple Use Area as an ACEC will focus greater attention on the significant mineral, cultural, and other multiple use values contained in the area.

Monitoring

All monitoring will be conducted as per direction and policy for each of the various resource programs.

Implementation Priorities

See the other multiple use programs for priorities of implementation.

APPENDIX ONE

EMPHASIS AREAS/MANAGEMENT GUIDANCE

Introduction

The San Juan/San Miguel Resource Management Plan (RMP) defines the long-term direction for managing the public lands and minerals within the planning area. The RMP also defines the overall direction and required activities to achieve the desired resource conditions and is composed of two principle parts: (a) multiple use emphasis areas that describe the various management practices and guidelines to be used in administering the public lands and minerals, and (b) a resource management map that shows the various emphasis areas and boundaries for future management. Table 1-1 was developed in response to public issues and management concerns and how available, suitable, and capable the land and its resources are.

Implementing this land use plan is the key to translating the goals, management practices, and guidelines stated in the plan into on-the-ground results. It will be put into effect through budgeting and annual work plan processes, which supplement the land use plan by making the adjustments needed to reflect current priorities within the overall plan direction.

The RMP/EIS is a general planning document and describes goals and objectives in general terms only. Detailed activity plans and associated environmental assessments will be written prior to implementation of projects. The RMP will be used as a guide outlining major goals and objectives for activity plans. Tasks needed to implement activity plans will be placed in priority order through the annual work plan process.

Implementation

Table 1-1 consists of direction concerning activities needed to implement the goals and objectives of the particular emphasis area. Specific limits and constraints may be defined within emphasis areas to ensure objectives are achieved.

Land use planning is not a process whereby every possible future use of the public land can be forecast and taken into account in an RMP. However, the emphasis areas can be used to determine compatibility with possible future uses of the public land and minerals. For example, as possible future uses arise, they will be compared to the management emphasis on a given area and relative compatibility will be determined; if the uses are compatible, they would be allowed.

Uses that are found to be incompatible could require any of the following actions: (1) land use plan amendments, (2) mitigation to bring the uses within the goals and objectives of the emphasis area, (3) relocation to another area where the proposed uses would be compatible with the given emphasis for that area, and (4) denial of proposal.

This land use plan will be used as direction for decisions made in the immediate future in the planning area. When necessary, revisions will be completed based upon monitoring and evaluation, new data, new or revised policy, and changes

in circumstances affecting the entire or major portions of the plan. Revisions will comply with all of the requirements of these regulations for preparing and approving the original RMP.

Table 1-1. Management Guidance for Emphasis Areas**Management Guidance for Area A: Emphasis on Livestock Management**

Management direction will emphasize increasing forage and livestock production on a sustained yield basis. Emphasis is upon increasing forage, red meat and animal fiber production, and improving forage composition and watershed conditions. Significant investments may be made in livestock improvements which will be multiple use oriented (i.e., wildlife, watershed, etc.). Investments for other resources will be minimal, although resource management activities compatible with livestock production will continue. Dispersed recreation opportunities will continue. Woodland products and timber will be made available. Wildlife habitat development generally will not be emphasized. Fire will be utilized to enhance forage production.

Management Direction for Other Resource Values

Resource/ Activity	General Guidance	Specific Management Direction
Cultural	Protect & manage important cultural resource properties.	
Recreation	Manage for dispersed recreation as the primary recreation activity. Permit yearlong, nonmotorized recreation activities throughout the area. Allow motorized, off-road vehicle (ORV) use. Establish site-specific visual quality objectives & design guidelines for landscape development projects during activity planning.	
Wildlife	Maintain or improve wildlife habitat through interdisciplinary design of range improvement projects & diversity of native vegetation types. Allow compatible wildlife introductions or reintroductions or habitat improvements. Limit investments of wildlife program funds unless opportunity for substantial benefits to wildlife resources can be realized. Aquatic/riparian resources will receive special consideration at the activity planning stage to ensure maintenance or improvement of these resources.	<p>All perennial streams within the planning area that have the potential of providing quality fisheries &(or) riparian habitat (approx. 400 mi have been identified) should receive special management consideration through the activity planning process & monitoring systems to maintain, improve, or enhance resource conditions associated with aquatic/riparian habitat.</p> <p>Allow CDOW to introduce chukar & expand the pronghorn antelope herds. Other game species would be allowed if site-specific analysis indicates that significant conflicts with livestock will not occur. In all vegetation types, 5% to 15% of the existing vegetation should be maintained as leave</p>

Livestock Management
Area A (continued)

Resource/ Activity	General Guidance	Specific Management Direction
		strips or islands interspersed throughout the project areas to maintain dispersed, ecologic communities for wildlife.
Livestock Management	Manage suitable vegetation types for increased, sustained livestock production. One goal is to improve range condition & productivity on native rangeland. Use improved management systems such as rest-rotation & deferred-rotation, if appropriate. Invest in range improvements necessary to implement management systems.	Develop 71 AMPs (810,000 acres).
Forestry	<p>Manage woodland products & timber to enhance range resources & for insect & disease control.</p> <p>Timber species should be managed at a stocking level that maintains moderate to high herbage production. Utilize woodland products to the maximum extent practicable through commercial sales under the principle of sustained yield. Manage aspen forest types to perpetuate aspen, using even-aged silviculture. Limit clearcuts in aspen to a maximum of 40 acres or the size of an aspen clone, whichever is smaller.</p>	<p>Provide reasonable opportunity to salvage forest products prior to & following range habitat improvement treatments.</p> <p>Provide legal & physical access to vegetation treatments to facilitate salvage of forest products when feasible.</p>
Minerals	Allow mineral development in all areas not withdrawn from entry. Provide protective stipulations to limit impacts to livestock improvements or management practices.	
Lands	Allow for disposal of parcels of public land that do not significantly affect livestock management. Major utility corridors would be allowed with protective stipulations to prevent or limit impacts to range management. Allow	

Livestock Management
Area A (continued)

Resource/ Activity	General Guidance	Specific Management Direction
	<p>other land actions, when there is a clear & significant public need, when they will result in minimal adverse impacts, or when they will be beneficial to grazing management.</p> <p>Acquire or exchange lands when livestock management opportunities will be enhanced.</p>	
Soils and Water	Maintain soil productivity, minimize man-caused soil erosion & strive to achieve adequate vegetation cover for watershed protection & plant vigor. Maintain water quality & quantity for multiple resource management. Secure sufficient water rights to provide for livestock management needs.	
Fire	Provide level of protection from wildfire that will result in least total cost & will generally enhance range management values. Use prescribed fire when possible to enhance forage production.	Continue & expand (where appropriate) the limited fire suppression plan to enhance vegetation conditions for livestock grazing.
Access	Provide administrative access to public land to enhance management of the range resource. Provide maintenance of roads in the BLM transportation plan to minimum standards for user safety.	Acquire access to the following grazing allotments: 7016, 8011, 8013, 8018, & 8019.

Management Guidance for Area B: Emphasis on Wildlife

Management direction will emphasize achieving and maintaining the best possible habitat conditions for fisheries and wildlife. Emphasis will be upon increasing aquatic and terrestrial wildlife numbers within habitat capability, improving stream and watershed conditions and providing a high degree of vegetation diversity. Investments for wildlife habitat improvements could be high in certain areas. Woodland products and timber will be available. Dispersed recreation opportunities will continue. Livestock management will be of an intensity that will utilize available forage and maintain forage vigor while not degrading wildlife habitat. The season-of-use may be changed or the numbers of livestock may be reduced in some areas.

Management Direction for Other Resource Values

Resource/ Activity	General Guidance	Specific Management Direction
Cultural	Protect & manage important cultural resource properties.	
Recreation	Manage for dispersed recreation as the primary recreation activity. Permit yearlong, non-motorized recreation activities throughout the area, except restrict recreation use to resolve people & wildlife conflicts, favoring wildlife in such cases. Establish site-specific visual quality objectives & design guidelines for landscape development projects during activity planning.	<p>Continue vehicle closure on Perins Peak & Animas Mountain area.</p> <p>Continue seasonal (April 1-July 15) closure to public access at Perins Peak peregrine falcon eyrie.</p>
Wildlife	Intensively manage for optimal terrestrial & aquatic/riparian wildlife habitat. Maintain or improve historically occupied or potentially suitable threatened & endangered (T&E) species habitat. Maintain or improve habitat for sensitive plant & wildlife species & "migratory bird species of high Federal interest." Provide for necessary investments to enhance wildlife habitat. Cooperate with CDOW for funding of habitat improvement projects & also cooperate with CDOW on the reintroduction program.	<p style="text-align: center;">Terrestrial</p> <p>Manage big game for the following numbers of animals, subject to monitoring results & availability of funds & personnel to implement needed improvements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 20,000 mule deer 1,600 elk 300 antelope 300 bighorn sheep <p>Continue management of Perins Peak & Paradox peregrine falcon eyries.</p> <p>Continue management of bald eagle nests & winter eagle concentration areas.</p> <p>Animas Mountain should be managed for its wildlife values (winter range) & maintained in a primitive state.</p> <p>Complete habitat improvements. Invest wildlife funds for</p>

Wildlife
Area B (continued)

Resource/ Activity	General Guidance	Specific Management Direction
Livestock Management	Manage suitable vegetation types under low to moderate intensity for livestock production, with intent to utilize available forage & maintain forage vigor, while not degrading wildlife habitat. Constrain range treatment projects in size, layout & type with intent to enhance wildlife & livestock forage, vegetation & habitat diversity. Reduce number of livestock and change season-of-use where needed to provide sufficient forage for wildlife & to protect	<p>structural improvements & vegetation restoration projects to improve high priority riparian habitat at the following drainages: Roc, North & South Mesa, La Sal, & Dry creeks (East & West Fork, Dry Creek Canyon) & Cross, Cow, Cahone, Hovenweep, & Bridge canyons.</p> <p>Continue to monitor & provide protection for endangered candidate & sensitive plant species in Paradox Valley & Spring Creek.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Aquatic/Riparian</p> <p>Reestablish river otters in the Dolores River.</p> <p>Improve or enhance aquatic/riparian habitat on the following priority areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Upper San Miguel River & its tributaries (44 miles) -Upper Dolores River (30 miles) -Lower San Miguel & its tributaries (20 miles) <p>Develop aquatic/riparian HMPs for these three priority areas (including intensive monitoring plans).</p>
		Limit total utilization of forage species current year's growth. Livestock use should be limited where necessary to protect highly preferred species of plants. Maintain an overall cover/forage ratio of 40:60. Limit width of vegetation openings to approx. 150 to 200 yards in big game winter ranges. In pinyon-juniper & shrub vegetation types, retain 35% to 40% of original cover when completing vegetation .

Wildlife
Area B (continued)

Resource/ Activity	General Guidance	Specific Management Direction
	aquatic/riparian resources, especially on big game winter & spring ranges.	
Forestry	Manage forest lands to enhance wildlife resource. Plan wood product sales in wildlife areas to improve big game forage & other wildlife needs.	<p>Provide reasonable opportunity to salvage forest products prior to & following habitat improvement treatments.</p> <p>Provide legal & physical access to vegetation treatments to facilitate salvage of forest products when feasible.</p>
Minerals	Allow mineral development in all areas not withdrawn from entry. Provide protective stipulations to limit impacts to wildlife habitat or species. Limit &(or) provide protective stipulations for mineral development on habitat for T&E species.	Continue present leasing stipulations with changes for wildlife winter ranges & eagle concentration areas as shown in the Resource Conservation Alternative.
Lands	Allow for disposal of parcels of public land not determined to be significant & manageable for wildlife habitat. Major utility corridors would generally be excluded except on a case-by-case basis depending on site-specific impacts of the proposal. Acquire or exchange land when management opportunities for wildlife are enhanced. Acquire fishing easements on acreages associated with priority streams. Allow other land actions, when there is a clear & significant public need, when they will result in minimal adverse impacts, or when they are beneficial to wildlife.	Pursue exchange of public lands to enhance wildlife values in Dry Creek Basin. Primary consideration for exchange should be given to CDOW; however, other opportunities which may enhance wildlife values will not be dismissed.
Soils and Water	Maintain soil productivity, minimize man-caused soil erosion & strive to achieve adequate vegetation cover for watershed protection & plant vigor. Maintain or improve water quality & quantity for multiple use resource needs. Maintain minimum instream	

Wildlife
Area B (continued)

Resource/ Activity	General Guidance	Specific Management Direction
	flows for wildlife & fishery needs.	
Fire	Provide the level of protection from wildfire that will result in least total cost & will generally enhance wildlife management values. Use prescribed fire when possible to enhance wildlife habitat.	
Access	Provide administrative access to public land for managing wildlife habitat. Provide very little or no maintenance to roads. Close & reclaim any abandoned or poorly designed roads. Acquire public access where needed to allow wildlife-related recreation (including hunting & fishing in underutilized areas).	Acquire access to Chromo Mesa to enhance all management & public hunting opportunities. Acquire administrative access to Roc Creek.

Management Guidance for Area C: Emphasis on Recreation

BLM's recreation program is structured to the intensity and type of recreation management required. There are two primary types of recreation management situations that are recognized and which guide the direction of management emphasis in the RMP area. The first, special recreation management areas (SRMAs), occurs where recreation is defined and recognized as *the* principal management objective. The second situation, extensive recreation management areas (ERMAs), occurs where recreation is not the principal management objective but may be an issue or concern of some significance in multiple use management for the area, which is consistent with BLM's role in accommodating the dispersed, largely unstructured recreation that typifies the large expanses of public land in the San Juan RMP area.

The primary management goal is to ensure the continued availability of outdoor recreation opportunities which the public seek and which are *not* readily available from other public or private entities. Secondary goals include protecting resources, meeting legal requirements for visitor health and safety, and mitigating resource user conflicts involving recreation.

Recreation objectives are to provide dispersed and resource-dependent types of recreation opportunities such as cross-country skiing, hunting, hiking, boating, jeeping, and fishing and to deal with the limited number of situations which require special or more intensive types of recreation management. Decreases in nonrecreational outputs may occur. Investments will be concentrated in SRMAs and in those ERMAs where these recreation program goals apply.

Management objectives would include major investments in facilities and visitor management. Where recreation is not the principal management objective, management direction will largely emphasize the provision of access and visitor information.

Management Direction for Other Resource Values

Resource/ Activity	General Guidance	Specific Management Direction
Cultural	Develop & protect suitable cultural resource properties for public enjoyment through such practices as interpretive signing, stabilization, etc.	Emphasize cultural resource values & semiprimitive recreation opportunities in Cross, Cahone, Squaw/Papoose, Dolores River, & Tabeguache Creek canyons.
Visual	Preserve scenic values, enhance viewing opportunities & increase variety, where appropriate. Establish site-specific visual quality objectives & design guidelines for landscape development projects during activity planning.	Manage key travel routes in Silverton SRMA under VRM Class II guidelines. Manage upper portion of Dolores (Bradfield Bridge to Disappointment Creek-41 mi) under VRM Class II guidelines. Manage from Disappointment Creek to Gypsum Valley Bridge under VRM Class III guidelines. Manage Weber & Menefee as VRM Class II. Manage Tabeguache Canyon area as Outstanding Natural Area. Public land along boundary of Mesa Verde National Park (from entrance road west) & along San Miguel River from its upper reaches to Naturita, Colorado, should be managed under VRM Class II guidelines.

Recreation
Area C (continued)

Resource/ Activity	General Guidance	Specific Management Direction
Recreation	<p>Manage for a variety of recreation opportunities consistent with classifications determined in Recreational Opportunity Spectrum (ROS) inventories. Provide necessary visitor management services & facilities required to meet recreation program goals. Manage the Dolores River as an SRMA for water-based recreation opportunities. The entire Silverton portion of the planning area should also be managed as an SRMA for its wide variety of recreation values & opportunities.</p>	<p>Continue management of the Silverton SRMA (45,000 acres).</p> <p>Develop a Recreation Management Plan for Silverton SRMA that outlines specific needs for visitor management facilities.</p> <p>Continue ORV plan in Silverton as per existing MFP & USFS planning direction. ORV designations within land obtained from USFS northeast of Silverton—Motorized use within area is limited to BLM road Nos. 4511, 4512, & 4514. Designations will be implemented with on-the-ground informational signing program that utilizes white arrow concept. Limitations are consistent with designations made in BLM's 1981 Off-Road Vehicle Designations for Gunnison Basin planning area & with recommendations originally made for area in Draft San Juan National Forest Land & Resource Management Plan (USFS 1983).</p> <p>Upon completing McPhee Dam & reservoir & after realizing useable downstream recreation flows, manage 94 miles of Dolores River SRMA as per classifications determined by BLM's ROS system. Manage Dolores River from the Bradfield Bridge to Dove Creek pump station for its semiprimitive nonmotorized recreation setting opportunities; from Dove Creek pump station to Disappointment Creek for its semiprimitive motorized setting opportunities; from Disappointment Creek to Gypsum Valley Bridge for its rural settings; & from Gypsum Valley Bridge to Bedrock for its primitive values & settings.</p>

Resource/ Activity	General Guidance	Specific Management Direction
		<p>Determine carrying capacities for river corridor by specific ROS setting. Develop Recreation Area Management Plan that addresses & emphasizes cooperative & concurrent recreation management efforts of USFS & Bureau of Reclamation's dam & reservoir operations. The management plan must also address recreation carrying capacity, visitor use & preferences, & permits. Close Dolores SRMA to ORV use.</p> <p>Weber & Menefee mountains would be managed for their semiprimitive recreation values. Both areas would be closed to ORVs.</p>
Wildlife	<p>Manage aquatic & terrestrial wildlife habitat to provide frequent wildlife sightings, recreational hunting & fishing, diverse vegetation cover, etc. Continue to provide necessary management for T&E species. Other wildlife values will be managed as long as they do not conflict with recreation or cultural values.</p>	<p>Allow for introduction of bighorn sheep & river otters in Dolores River. Improve fishery values on Dolores & San Miguel (including Beaver & Fall creeks) rivers to improve their recreation values. Also improve recreation access to Beaver Creek & San Miguel River.</p> <p>Manage McElmo RNA to protect for scientific research. Remove the mineral withdrawal but continue the no surface occupancy stipulations for oil & gas leasing.</p>
Livestock Management	<p>Manage livestock under reduced intensity to utilize available forage & maintain plant vigor while not degrading recreation values. Do not attempt to maintain or improve forage composition & production through range vegetation treatments with exception of prescribed fire where appropriate. Use "rustic" range improvements near developed recreation areas.</p>	<p>Manage livestock grazing to make it compatible with recreation use.</p>
Forestry	<p>Manage lands suitable for timber & woodland production to enhance recreational opportu-</p>	<p>Allow no regulated sales of wood products in the Silverton SRMA, except to control disease &</p>

Recreation
Area C (continued)

Resource/ Activity	General Guidance	Specific Management Direction
	ities & to maintain healthy stand conditions.	insect outbreaks where necessary. Allow no sales of wood products in the Dolores River SRMA.
Minerals	Manage mineral development to limit conflict with management of high recreational values. When possible, schedule activities so conflicts are minimized between recreational & mineral activities. Ensure site rehabilitation activities follow operating plans & address recreation management objectives.	Provide for no surface occupancy stipulations for mineral leasing in the Dolores River SRMA (from the Bradfield Bridge to the confluence with Disappointment Creek & from Big Gypsum Valley to 1 mi above Bedrock). Provide for no surface occupancy stipulations for oil & gas leasing in Weber & Menefee mountains.
Lands	Allow for disposal of parcels of public land not needed for recreation management. Major utility corridors will not be allowed. Other land actions will be allowed if they are designed to meet the established recreation management objectives, or when there is a clear & significant public need. Acquire or exchange land when opportunities for recreation management will be enhanced.	If needed, allow major corridors to cross the Dolores River between Disappointment Creek & the Big Gypsum Valley Bridge.
Soils and Water	Maintain soil productivity, minimize man-caused soil erosion & strive to achieve adequate vegetation cover for watershed protection & plant vigor. Maintain or improve water quality & quantity for multiple use resource needs. Secure sufficient water rights to provide for recreation management needs.	
Fire	Utilize fire management techniques that maintain long-term recreation quality objectives. Suppression of wildfires will generally occur but prescribed fire will be allowed if it will meet or exceed recreation	

Recreation
Area C (continued)

Resource/ Activity	General Guidance	Specific Management Direction
	objectives.	
Access	Provide public access to the public lands to enhance the recreation values. Provide a moderate level of maintenance on primary roads to promote user safety. Minimal levels of maintenance will be provided on secondary roads.	Assist in acquiring easements & fee title at sites as recommended in Dolores Downstream Recreation Site Plan Report. Acquire &(or) improve access to Beaver Creek for recreational pursuits.

Management Guidance for Area D: Emphasis On Wilderness

Management direction will allow for wilderness management in accordance with the Wilderness Act of 1964. The objective of management is to provide predominantly untrammelled, natural environments for the physical, biologic and social components of wilderness. The physical and biologic components are managed so that natural processes are unimpeded by human activities or use. Natural processes, including naturally occurring fire, soil erosion, and insect and disease cycles, proceed unrestricted by man. Emphasize high levels of solitude, few party encounters, and high opportunities for challenge, risk and self-reliance. Human travel is cross-country or by use of a trail system. Recreation use will be consistent with wilderness resource management or will be restricted and prohibited when or where needed.

Management Direction for Other Resource Values

Resource/ Activity	General Guidance	Specific Management Direction
Cultural	Allow no development of cultural resources (other than stabilization) for recreation purposes. Allow use of cultural resource properties for religious or research purposes only when such use will not degrade wilderness values.	Protect & interpret unique & significant values in the Dolores River Canyon WSA.
Recreation	Allow opportunities for primitive & unconfined recreation activities featuring solitude; the chance to experience unmodified, natural ecosystems; & to travel cross-country in an environment where success or failure is directly dependent on ability, knowledge & initiative; but in a way to prevent deterior-	Provide for primitive (non-motorized) river running activities compatible with wilderness resource in the Dolores River Canyon WSA. Establish visual Class I low contrast design standards for Dolores River Canyon WSA.

Wilderness
Area D (continued)

Resource/ Activity	General Guidance	Specific Management Direction
	<p>rating the wilderness resource. ORV use is not allowed.</p> <p>Manage recreation use to provide users with experiences & psychological outcomes expected in wilderness/primitive setting. Control social & physical carrying capacity to provide such outcome.</p> <p>Establish site-specific visual quality objectives & design guide lines for landscape development projects during activity planning.</p>	
Wilderness	Manage any recommended WSAs per the Wilderness Act of 1964.	Recommend the Dolores River Canyon WSA for wilderness designation.
Wildlife	<p>Permit fish & wildlife research or inventories. Allow natural distribution & population of vegetation & wildlife species indigenous to area to maintain natural balance with each other, their habitats, & man. Provide for nonimpairing wildlife improvement to improve terrestrial or aquatic/riparian habitat.</p>	<p>Allow nonimpairing aquatic/riparian improvements & introduction or reintroduction of bighorn sheep & river otters into the Dolores River Canyon WSA.</p> <p>Provide protection for sensitive plant species & relic Great Basin grassland plant associations in the Coyote Wash area of Dolores Canyon.</p>
Livestock Management	Manage for improved range condition. Do not use vegetation manipulations to improve forage production. Emphasize primitive, natural material for water developments & range structures that are approved in wilderness management plan.	
Forestry	Allow no harvesting of forest products. Available forest land will remain in the commercial forest lands base until the area has been designated as wilderness.	
Minerals	Administer all mineral activity as required by Section 4(d) of the Wilderness Act of 1964. Deny	

Wilderness
Area D (continued)

Resource/ Activity	General Guidance	Specific Management Direction
	issuance of any future mineral leases within the wilderness area.	
Lands	Acquire or exchange private lands & subsurface mineral estates within wilderness areas that will enhance wilderness values or manageability. Allow no utility corridors & no new facilities except those authorized through Wilderness Act provisions. Remove any existing, nonconforming structures unless they are determined to be of cultural or historic value or necessary for administering the area.	Acquire easements between Bedrock & the northern boundary of the Dolores River Canyon WSA to improve its management. Coordinate these acquisition efforts with recommendations that are detailed in the Dolores Downstream Site Selection Report, which recommends acquisition & development of a boating access site (to be constructed as part of the Dolores Project—McPhee Dam) near Bedrock Bridge. Do not renew Federal Energy Regulatory Commission's (FERC) powersite classifications on the Dolores River Canyon WSA when reviewed.
Soils and Water	Stabilize & rehabilitate man-caused disturbances if identified in a wilderness management plan. Maintain or improve water quality & quantity through non-impairing means.	
Fire	Perpetuate & maintain ecosystems within wilderness by natural occurrence of fire, insects, & disease. Suppression may be taken on man-caused fires, fires threatening human life & property, or fires which threaten to escape from wilderness to adjacent areas with more restrictive fire prescriptions.	
Access	Allow no motorized ORV use. Trail construction for foot &(or) horseback will be addressed in a wilderness management plan.	Close ways in the Dolores River Canyon WSA.

Management Guidance for Area E: Emphasis on Mineral Development

Management direction will emphasize mineral development on the public lands. Mineral values indicate significant reserves of valuable minerals are present and development is either currently ongoing or will occur within the near future. Other resource uses will occur to the extent they are compatible with mineral development. Limited expenditures of public resources will be used on developing the present land resources. Livestock grazing will continue, wildlife habitat will be maintained where feasible, and cultural resources will receive the protection currently afforded by law.

Management Direction for Other Resource Values

Resource/ Activity	General Guidance	Specific Management Direction
Cultural	Protect & manage important cultural resource properties.	
Recreation	Provide recreation opportunities that do not conflict with mineral development. Allow motorized ORV use. Establish site-specific visual quality objectives & design guidelines for landscape development projects during activity planning.	
Wildlife	Protect T&E species & maintain or improve their habitat. Provide for minimal investments to enhance key wildlife species.	Continue present leasing stipulations with changes to wildlife winter ranges & eagle concentration areas.
Livestock Management	Manage suitable vegetation types under moderate intensity for livestock production, with the intent to use available forage & maintain forage vigor. Reduce the number and/or season-of-use for livestock where needed to minimize impacts to mineral operations & revegetation efforts or to minimize erosion from site. Limit range improvements on areas designated for mineral development to protect investments. Adjust livestock use as land is removed from production for mineral purposes.	
Forestry	Allow for the sale or disposal of forest products or timber that may be lost in mineral development or that is needed	

Mineral Development
Area E (continued)

Resource/ Activity	General Guidance	Specific Management Direction
	for managing the resource. Meet demand without degradation or conflict.	
Minerals	Allow mineral development on all areas not specifically excluded from development. Provide protective stipula- tions to limit impacts to other resource values.	<p>Continue oil, gas, & CO₂ operations throughout planning area (183,000 acres in areas designated as KGSs).</p> <p>Continue cooperative manage- ment to protect surface resources on 19,800 acres of DOE lease tracts.</p> <p>Continue approved operations of 4,500 acres of hard rock mining under 43 CFR 3809 regu- lations.</p> <p>Continue sodium lease (120 acres).</p> <p>Continue sand & gravel opera- tions (880 acres). In addi- tion, 400 acres on Ewing Mesa would be available for development for sand & gravel.</p> <p>Provide protective management of the unique fossils in the Placerville area through the use of stipulations on a case- by-case basis in environ- mental documents.</p> <p>Allow coal leasing on 1,480 acres in the Nucla KRCRA & 46,000 acres in the Durango KRCRA.*</p>
Lands	Allow for disposal of parcels of public land not needed for mineral development. Major utility corridors will be	

* The priority of these areas was determined based on 1983 coal data & indications of interest by industry. The remaining coal lands determined to be suitable or identified as priorities for future leasing will be managed for other multiple use considerations. These lands would be made available for future leasing only when the coal priority areas had been depleted or a significant demand was expressed that could not be met by the existing coal priority area.

Mineral Development
Area E (continued)

Resource/ Activity	General Guidance	Specific Management Direction
	allowed as long as they don't conflict with mineral development. Allow other land actions as long as they don't limit mineral development, or when there is a clear & significant public need. Acquire or exchange land & subsurface mineral estate when mineral development will be enhanced.	
Soils and Water	Maintain soil productivity & minimize soil erosion through rehabilitation efforts when mineral activities cease. Maintain water quality & quantity when possible for resource needs.	
Fire	Provide a level of protection from wildfire resulting in the least total cost & protection of mineral developments on the public lands.	
Access	Provide or maintain public access minimizing impacts to mineral development. Work with mineral developers to assure roads are maintained for public safety.	

Management Guidance for Area F: Emphasis on Cultural Resources

Management direction will emphasize the preservation, management, and use of the cultural resource properties found within the area. Emphasis will be on protecting the soil, vegetation, and wildlife resources to enhance the natural environment of the area and hence the cultural resource setting. Mineral resources will be developed while constrained by existing laws, policy and regulations pertaining to cultural resources. Other resource and land management activities will be constrained to avoid conflict with preservation, development, and protection objectives.

Management Direction for Other Resource Values

Resource/ Activity	General Guidance	Specific Management Direction
Cultural	Manage cultural resources for protection, preservation, investigation, & public use (i.e., development & interpretation), where appropriate.	<p>Manage the Anasazi Heritage Center as focal point for the cultural program for public lands.</p> <p>Emphasize management & develop cultural management plans on the following cultural sites/areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bull Canyon Cahone Canyon Cannonball Ruin Cow Mesa Cross Canyon Dolores Cave Dominguez-Escalante Ruins East Rock Canyon Hamilton Mesa Hanging Flume Indian Henry's Cabin Lightning Tree Tower Group Lowry Ruin McLean Basin Towers Mockingbird Mesa Painted Hand Petroglyphs Painted Hand Ruin Sand Canyon Squaw/Papoose Canyon Tabeguache Canyon Tabeguache Pueblo
Recreation	<p>Make areas available for day use activities, where feasible. Construct public convenience developments such as restrooms, observation areas, or interpretative trails.</p> <p>Provide input into development & operation of Anasazi Heritage Center. Develop public or visitor management plans for areas.</p> <p>Establish site-specific visual</p>	<p>Manage Cross, Cahone, Squaw/ Papoose & Tabeguache Creek canyons under VRM Class II standards, close to ORVs, & provide for semiprimitive non-motorized recreation opportunities in the above areas.</p> <p>Manage the Tabeguache Canyon cultural emphasis area as an Outstanding Natural Area.</p> <p>Develop recreation activity</p>

Cultural
Area F (continued)

Resource/ Activity	General Guidance	Specific Management Direction
	quality objectives & design guidelines for interpretation & visitor management during activity planning.	management plans for Lowry & Dominguez-Escalante cultural sites.
Wildlife	Protect & maintain wildlife habitat. Where feasible, complete wildlife habitat improvements to enhance wildlife viewing in association with cultural values. Continue to manage T&E species habitat to protect the species.	
Livestock Management	When necessary, reduce or control livestock grazing to protect cultural resources.	
Forestry	Allow removal of forest products only when compatible with cultural, wildlife, or recreation values or when done to improve safety.	
Minerals	Pursue withdrawal from mineral entry on any important cultural properties. In the event withdrawal is not made (& on areas not withdrawn), supervise the activities of claimants, lessees, & permittees to ensure minimum impacts on cultural values. Use no surface occupancy stipulations to protect important cultural values.	<p>Continue present protection & no surface occupancy stipulations for oil & gas on Sand & East Rock canyons; Cannonball, Lowry, Lightning Tree Tower, Hovenweep buffer, Battle Rock, Easter Ruin, Seven Towers Ruin, Dominguez-Escalante Ruins, McLean Basin Towers; & Painted Hand Petroglyphs.</p> <p>Withdraw from mineral entry & provide for no surface occupancy stipulations for oil & gas leasing on Painted Hand Ruin, Bull Canyon Rockshelter, Dolores Cave, Tabeguache Pueblo, & Indian Henry's Cabin.</p>

Cultural
Area F (continued)

Resource/ Activity	General Guidance	Specific Management Direction
		Provide for no surface occupancy stipulations for oil & gas leasing on Cahone, Cross, Squaw/Papoose, & Tabeguache canyons to protect cultural values.
Lands	Allow no disposal of public land where significant cultural values are involved. Major utility corridors (powerlines of 115 kV & above & pipelines 6" in diameter & above) would generally not be allowed. Allow other land actions to occur when they would result in minimal adverse impact, when they will be beneficial to cultural resource management, or when there is a clear & significant public need. Acquire or exchange land when cultural management will be enhanced.	
Soils and Water	Maintain soil productivity, minimize man-caused soil erosion & stabilize & rehabilitate areas with severe man-caused soil erosion. Maintain water quality & quantity. Apply for water rights & protect riparian zones on springs associated with cultural sites.	
Fire	Provide level of protection on all fires that will protect the cultural resource values.	
Access	Provide administrative access to public land to enhance the management of the cultural resource. Provide public access to some of the cultural areas where public use will be managed. Provide maintenance of roads to a level of minimum standards for user safety. Close roads when necessary to limit access to protect cultural values.	Limit public access to Mockingbird Mesa, Bull Canyon Rockshelter, Sand & East Rock canyons, & Indian Henry's Cabin to foot or horse only & limit vehicle access to authorized vehicles only. Acquire easement into Sand Canyon area. Acquire administrative access into Cannonball Mesa & Yellowjacket Canyon

**Management Guidance for Area G:
Emphasis on General Natural Resource Management**

Management direction for these areas will consist of general multiple use as prescribed in the Federal Land Policy and Management Act (FLPMA) of 1976. The resource values contained in these areas are not significant to the degree that a dominant use exists. Management guidance will consist of existing laws, policy, and manuals concerning each resource program.

Management Direction for Other Resource Values

Resource/ Activity	General Guidance	Specific Management Direction
Cultural	<p>Manage cultural resource properties in accordance with applicable laws, regulations & public interest.</p> <p>Provide for dispersed types of recreation opportunities.</p> <p>Utilize sign, maps, etc., to help manage the dispersed use.</p> <p>Allow ORV use.</p> <p>Establish site-specific visual quality objectives & design guidelines for landscape development projects during activity planning.</p>	
Wildlife	Protect T&E species & maintain or improve their habitat. Manage all other habitat to provide satisfactory conditions.	
Livestock Management	Manage vegetation so it maintains itself satisfactorily with a generally upward trend.	
Forestry	Provide a sustained yield of forest products consistent with land capability, suitability, protection needs, & other resource values.	
Minerals	Provide for mineral development in all areas not withdrawn from mineral entry. Provide protective stipulations to limit impacts to other resource values.	
Lands	Allow for disposal of parcels of public land not needed for resource management. Acquire or exchange land when resource management opportunities will be enhanced. Major utility corridors would be allowed with protective stipulations to prevent or limit adverse impacts to	

General Management
Area G (continued)

Resource/ Activity	General Guidance	Specific Management Direction
	other resource values. Allow other land actions to occur with appropriate stipulations, or when there is a clear & significant public need.	
Soils and Water	<p>Maintain soil productivity, minimize man-caused soil erosion & strive to achieve adequate vegetation cover for watershed protection & plant vigor.</p> <p>Maintain water quality & quantity for resource needs. Secure sufficient water rights to provide for resource management.</p>	
Fire	<p>Provide a level of protection from wildfire that will result in the least total cost & will generally enhance resource conditions of the vegetation. Use prescribed fire when possible to enhance resource conditions.</p>	
Access	<p>Provide administrative & public access, where possible. Maintain roads to a level of minimum standards for public safety.</p>	

Management Guidance for Area H: Emphasis on Public Land Disposal

Management of these areas will be for the disposal of the public lands; these areas will be subject to additional screening and clearances before any tracts identified for disposal in this plan may be transferred from BLM control. These activities include mineral assessment, cultural resource clearances, environmental analysis, appraisal and similar site-specific actions. Little or no public funds will be spent on these tracts for resource management; funds would only be spent to correct public health and safety problems or to correct severe resource deterioration we cannot allow to continue.

Management Direction for Other Resource Values

Resource/ Activity	General Guidance	Specific Management Direction
Cultural	Provide cultural resource inventories & clearances so disposal of the tracts can occur. Pending disposal, manage the cultural resources under present laws & regulations.	
Recreation	Provide for very limited dispersed recreation activity. Allow motorized ORV use. Establish site-specific visual quality objectives & design guidelines for landscape development projects during activity planning.	Consider disposal of the Indian Springs site to CDOW as part of their Mike Young property management. Also consider CDOW cooperatively managing those heavily used hunter camp sites along the road between Miramonte Reservoir & Indian Springs (near Hamilton Mesa).
Wildlife	Provide for T&E species inventories & clearance prior to disposal.	
Livestock Management	Allow limited management of the rangeland to occur. Spend no public funds on rangeland improvements. Complete procedural notifications to grazing permittees.	
Forestry	Allow timber to be harvested & forest products to be used.	
Minerals	Continue to manage the mineral program for development. Retain all mineral rights unless an exception can be documented for transferring the mineral rights.	Transfer all mineral rights with the surface unless: (1) mineral values can be documented to justify retaining the mineral rights, or (2) transferring the mineral rights is prevented by law or regulation.
Lands	Provide for disposal of the public lands. Major utility corridors would be allowed. Allow other land actions to proceed, especially when there is a clear & significant public need.	Allow approx. 21,700 acres for land disposal (through sales, exchanges, or any other title transfer means).

Disposal
Area H (continued)

Resource/ Activity	General Guidance	Specific Management Direction
Soils and Water	Maintain soil productivity, minimize man-caused soil erosion & maintain a minimum amount of vegetation cover for watershed protection. Maintain present water quality & quantity. Do not acquire water rights for resource needs unless an exception can be documented. Land disposals must be in con- formance with Executive Order (E.O.) 11988 - Floodplain Management.	
Fire	Provide for a limited level of fire management. Suppress wild- fires which may be threatening adjacent private, state or Federal property.	
Access	Acquire no access to these tracts unless an exception can be documented. Provide very little or no maintenance of roads. Reserve access rights across parcels when needed for public or resource management.	

Management Guidance for Area I: Emphasis on Wild Horses

Management direction will emphasize managing the wild horse herd at an average of 50 animals on public land by providing necessary forage and water. Some investments would probably occur to enhance the habitat for the horses and also to reduce conflicts with other uses in the area. A wild horse management plan will be developed. Reducing livestock and possibly wildlife may need to occur to maintain forage production and vigor. Dispersed recreation, including wild horse viewing, will continue. Woodland products will be made available on a limited basis. Fire will be used to enhance forage production.

Management Direction for Other Resource Values

Resource/ Activity	General Guidance	Specific Management Direction
Cultural	Protect important cultural resource properties.	
Recreation	Manage for dispersed recreation as the primary recreation ac-	

Wild Horses
Area I (continued)

Resource/ Activity	General Guidance	Specific Management Direction
	<p>tivity. Encourage nonmotorized recreation activities such as wild horse viewing, hiking, etc.</p> <p>Establish site-specific visual quality objectives & design guidelines for landscape development projects during activity planning.</p>	
Wildlife	Protect T&E species & maintain or improve their habitat. Provide minimal investments to enhance key wildlife species.	
Livestock Management	<p>Manage livestock to reduce or eliminate conflicts with wild horses. Maintain forage in fair condition with an upward trend. All livestock waters should be provided year round. Reduce numbers and/or season-of-use to eliminate forage competition. Assure that all range projects are compatible with wild horse use. Restrict licensing of domestic horses in wild horse areas.</p>	
Wild Horses	<p>Develop a site-specific management plan for the wild horses. Develop necessary improvements (fences, waters, vegetation treatments, etc.) for the long-term management of the herd. Maintain forage in a fair condition with an upward trend.</p>	<p>Manage for approximately 50 wild horses in the Spring Creek area. Remove all wild horses from the Naturita Ridge area.</p>
Forestry	Manage the forest lands to enhance the vegetation condition for the wild horses & for insect & disease control.	
Minerals	Allow mineral development in all areas not withdrawn from mineral entry. Provide protective stipulations to limit impacts to wild horses.	
Lands	Allow for disposal of parcels of public land not needed for wild	

Wild Horses
Area I (continued)

Resource/ Activity	General Guidance	Specific Management Direction
	horse management. Major utility corridors would be allowed with protective stipulations to prevent or limit impacts to the wild horses. Allow other land actions, including acquisition or exchange, when they will result in minimal adverse impacts, when they will be beneficial to wild horse management, or when there is a clear & significant public need.	
Soils and Water	Maintain soil productivity, minimize man-caused soil erosion & strive to achieve vegetation cover for watershed protection & plant vigor. Maintain water quality & quantity for resource needs. Secure water rights to provide for management needs.	
Fire	Provide a level of protection from wildfire that will result in the least total cost & that will generally enhance wild horse management. Use prescribed fire when possible to enhance vegetation production.	
Access	Provide administrative & public access to public land to enhance wild horse viewing & management. Provide maintenance of roads to a level of minimum standards for user safety. Limit ORV use to existing roads & trails where Emphasis Area I overlaps with Emphasis Area K.	

**Management Guidance for Area J:
Emphasis on Forestry and Wood Products**

This guidance is designed to increase the production and utilization of wood fiber, firewood, post and poles. Emphasis is on improved wood production and utilization resulting in extensive modification of tree and other vegetation cover. Investments may be made for forest management activities. Investments (in other emphasis areas) that are commensurate with level wood fiber production will be made. Opportunities will generally be moderate for wildlife management and for dispersed recreation. Livestock grazing will occur; however, disruptions may occur due to timber management actions or objectives.

Management Direction for Other Resource Values

Resource/ Activity	General Guidance	Specific Management Direction
Cultural	Protect important cultural resource properties.	
Recreation	Manage for dispersed recreation as the primary recreation activity. Allow motorized ORV use. Establish site-specific visual quality objectives & design guidelines for landscape development projects during activity planning.	
Wildlife	Protect T&E species & maintain or improve their habitat. Provide investments to enhance wildlife species which will benefit from uneven-aged timber management.	Coordinate efforts on a case-by-case basis to ensure aquatic/riparian resources are protected &, in some cases, improved.
Livestock Management	Allow livestock grazing on those areas & at times of the year when it will have no negative effects on timber management operations & objectives for the area. Range vegetation treatments will generally not be allowed in timber areas. Range improvements will be designed to minimize conflicts with forest emphasis.	
Forestry	Manage lands suitable for timber production. Invest necessary funds to provide for intensive management of the forest resource. Provide firewood, Christmas trees, & other wood products.	Manage timber and woodland species on all available & capable lands with a combination of even & uneven-age systems. Manage aspen under an even-age system. Limit open patchcuts to 20 acres or less in commercial forest types &

Forestry
Area J (continued)

Resource/ Activity	General Guidance	Specific Management Direction
		<p>40 acres in woodland types. Regenerate all patchcuts, shelterwood, & selection harvest cuts, naturally or artificially, within 15 years. Continue management of all operable woodland & commercial sawtimber in other emphasis areas.</p> <p>Manage approx. 10,960 acres for intensive forest management. Estimated allowable harvest would be 6.5 MMBF per decade.</p> <p>Manage approx. 42,130 acres to provide woodland products (firewood, posts, poles, etc.). Estimated allowable harvest would be 6.4 MMBF (12,800 cords) per decade.</p>
Minerals	Allow mineral development in all areas not withdrawn from mineral entry. Provide protective stipulations to limit impacts to the forest resource.	
Lands	Allow for disposal of public land parcels not needed for forest management. Acquire or exchange lands when forest management will be enhanced. Major utility corridors would generally not be allowed in commercial forests but would be allowed in woodland; exceptions could occur with specific analysis. Allow other land actions when they will result in minimal adverse impacts, when they will be beneficial to forest management, or when there is a clear & significant public need.	
Soils and Water	<p>Maintain soil productivity, minimize man-caused soil erosion & ensure utilization of forestry practices which will provide for minimal soil losses.</p> <p>Maintain water quality & quantity</p>	

Forestry
Area J (continued)

Resource/ Activity	General Guidance	Specific Management Direction
	for resource needs. Timber harvesting & associated activities will be conducted in a manner that will not degrade the water quality (from both point & non-point sources) below the Colorado Department of Health & Water Quality Standards & Classifications.	
Fire	Provide a level of protection from wildfire that will result in a least total cost & will enhance forest resources. Use prescribed fire when possible to enhance forest management objectives.	
Access	Provide administrative &, where needed, public access to public land to enhance forest management. Provide necessary maintenance of roads to ensure timber management practices can occur as planned.	

Management Guidance for Area K: Emphasis on Soils and Water

Management direction will emphasize improving water quality and soil stability. Resource data indicates significant water quality problems exist in some areas and management action may improve the existing situation. In addition, soil erosion on fragile soils can be reduced through intensive management practices. Other resource uses will occur to the extent they are compatible with the water and soil program direction for specific areas. Surface-disturbing activities may be limited or denied to improve resource conditions. Livestock grazing will be allowed but possibly at a reduced level; ORV use would be limited or excluded. Other resources, such as wildlife, cultural, etc., would be protected or enhanced under this emphasis area.

Management Direction for Other Resource Values

Resource/ Activity	General Guidance	Specific Management Direction
Cultural	Protect important cultural resource properties.	
Recreation	Manage for dispersed recreation as the primary recreation activity. Permit yearlong, non-motorized recreation activi-	Limit ORV use to existing roads & trails in the Disappointment Valley emphasis area.

Soils and Water
Area K (continued)

Resource/ Activity	General Guidance	Specific Management Direction
	ties throughout the area.	
	Establish site-specific visual quality objectives & design guidelines for landscape development projects during activity planning.	
Wildlife	Protect T&E & sensitive species habitat. Maintain or improve wildlife habitat through interdisciplinary design of water or vegetation improvements & maintenance of diversity of vegetation.	
	Allow wildlife habitat improvements compatible with the goals of the soil & water program for specific areas.	
Livestock Management	Manage suitable vegetation types under low to moderate intensity for livestock production with the intent to use available forage & maintain plant vigor. Reduce the number and/or season-of-use for livestock where needed to achieve soil & water program objectives. Maintain or improve range condition through soil & water improvements & diversifying the vegetation.	Develop a grazing system for use in Disappointment Valley which will improve vegetative cover, reduce erosion and salinity of runoff by protecting key forage species during the critical spring growing season.
Forestry	Manage forest products & woodlands to meet goals & objectives of the soil & water program for specific areas.	
Minerals	Allow for mineral development on all areas not specifically withdrawn from development. Provide protective stipulations to limit impacts to other resource values.	
Lands	Allow for disposal of parcels of land not identified for soil & water management. Acquire or exchange land when soil & water management will be enhanced. Major	

Soils and Water
Area K (continued)

Resource/ Activity	General Guidance	Specific Management Direction
	<p>utility corridors will be allowed but would be subjected to restrictive stipulations to protect fragile soil & water quality. Allow other land actions when they will result in minimal adverse impacts, when they will be beneficial to soils & water management, or when there is a clear & significant public need.</p>	
Wild Horses	<p>Manage the Spring Creek Basin wild horse herd to limit utilization of key forage species, thus improving vegetative conditions, reducing erosion, & maintaining watershed conditions.</p>	
Soils and Water	<p>Maintain or improve water quality & quantity. Develop necessary erosion control structures, vegetation improvements, or salinity reduction measures to improve water quality.</p> <p>Develop necessary soil protection measures to reduce or prevent future accelerated erosion from fragile sites. Maintain or improve soil productivity, minimize man-caused erosion & maintain vegetation for watershed protection & plant vigor.</p>	<p>Protect 4,700 acres in Boulder Gulch watershed to ensure water quality for Silverton.</p> <p>Protect water quality in aquifers used for domestic & municipal purposes in the Dry Creek Basin & Tabeguache Creek watersheds.</p> <p>Manage 65,000 acres in the following watersheds to reduce erosion & sediment yield:</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">Big Gypsum Valley Disappointment Valley Dry Creek Basin Paradox Valley</p> <p>Develop watershed management plans for all erosion prone & saline areas.</p> <p>Reclaim 5 pollution sources (heavy metals) in the Upper Animas River drainage.</p> <p>Manage 46,000 acres in Disappointment Valley to reduce sediment & salt to the Colorado River.</p>

Soils and Water
Area K (continued)

Resource/ Activity	General Guidance	Specific Management Direction
Fire	Provide level of protection from wildfire that will result in least total cost & will generally enhance soil & water values. Use prescribed fire when possible to enhance soil or water conditions.	
Access	Provide administrative access to public land for management of the soil & water resources. Provide maintenance to roads or trails to reduce erosion.	

Management Guidance for Area L:

Emphasis on Areas of Critical Environmental Concern (ACECs)

Management direction will emphasize areas of public land where special management attention is required. This management should be completed without unnecessarily or unreasonably restricting public land users from purposes compatible with such protection.

The proposed Anasazi Culture Multiple Use Area ACEC contains important cultural, mineral, recreation, range, and wildlife resources. The area represents the focus of the northern Anasazi development, with more than 100 sites per square mile in many areas, representing the highest known archaeologic site density per acre of any area in the nation. The total number of sites on public lands is estimated at nearly 20,000. Many sites cover 10 acres or more. Large oil and gas and carbon dioxide (CO₂) reserves are also contained within the area. Shell Oil Company has made extensive financial investment in the CO₂ resources, with a project life of more than 30 years. Public lands within the ACEC provide forage used by livestock and wildlife. Increased mineral development presents a challenge to BLM to provide high quality habitat for livestock and wildlife dependent on public lands. Population growth places increased pressure for recreation pursuits on public lands. These opportunities need to be provided, while emphasizing cultural and mineral values.

Management Direction for Other Resource Values

Resource/ Activity	General Guidance	Specific Management Direction
Cultural	Manage prehistoric or historic values where appropriate. Provide intensive protection of cultural resources from vandals & pothunters through increased surveillance & law enforcement. Intensify public education for	Manage the Anasazi Heritage Center as a focal point for cultural resources in the area. Emphasize cultural management on the following areas: Cahone Canyon Cannonball Ruin

ACECs
Area L (continued)

Resource/ Activity	General Guidance	Specific Management Direction
	<p>interpretation & recognition of the sensitivity of the resource. Provide for intensive inventory & evaluation of the cultural resources to more effectively provide protection. A cultural monitor may be required on all surface-disturbing activities to protect subsurface resources.</p>	<p>Cow Mesa Cross Canyon East Rock Canyon Escalante-Dominguez Ruins Hamilton Mesa Lightning Tree Tower Lowry Ruin McLean Basin Towers Mockingbird Mesa Painted Hand Petroglyphs Painted Hand Ruin Sand Canyon Squaw/Papoose Canyon</p> <p>Develop an ACEC Management Plan with specific guidelines for management of the area.</p>
Recreation	<p>Manage recreational opportunities according to ACEC guidelines.</p> <p>Establish site-specific visual quality objectives & design guidelines for landscape development projects during activity planning.</p>	<p>Close Cross, Cahone, & Squaw/Papoose canyons to ORVs. Provide semiprimitive nonmotorized recreation opportunities.</p> <p>Manage Cross, Cahone, & Squaw/Papoose canyons under VRM Class II guidelines.</p> <p>Manage the McElmo Research Natural Area for its special research value.</p>
Wildlife	<p>Manage important or critical habitat for T&E, sensitive, or species of special importance to maintain a viable population level of each species.</p>	<p>Invest wildlife funds for structural improvements & vegetation restoration projects to improve the following high priority riparian habitats: Cross, Cow, Cahone, Hovenweep, & Bridge canyons.</p>
Livestock Management	<p>Manage livestock under low to moderate intensity to use available forage & maintain plant vigor while not degrading any present ACEC values.</p>	<p>Develop & implement AMPs on "T" & "M" category allotments within ACECs. Consider cultural, mineral, wildlife, & recreation values during development.</p>
Forestry	<p>Manage lands suitable for timber & woodland production to enhance ACEC values & to maintain healthy stands.</p>	
Minerals	<p>Manage mineral development to limit conflict with present</p>	<p>Continue present protection & no surface occupancy stipula-</p>

ACECs
Area L (continued)

Resource/ Activity	General Guidance	Specific Management Direction
	ACEC values. When possible, schedule activities so conflicts are minimized & site rehabilitation is addressed within ACEC guidelines. Some mineral development may need to be limited or excluded for proper ACEC management.	<p>tions for oil & gas leasing on Battle Rock; Easter Ruin; Sand & East Rock canyons; Cannonball, Lowry, Lightning Tree Tower, Seven Towers & Dominguez-Escalante ruins; Hovenweep buffer; McLean Basin Towers; & Painted Hand Petroglyphs.</p> <p>Provide for no surface occupancy stipulations for oil & gas leasing on: Cahone, Cross, & Squaw/Papoose canyons & Painted Hand Ruin.</p>
Lands	<p>Disposal of isolated tracts not needed for future public land management & that do not contain important resource values may be accomplished after site-specific reviews on a case-by-case basis.</p> <p>Major utility corridors will be considered on a case-by-case basis. Acquisition, exchange & other lands actions will be allowed only if they are designed to meet the ACEC management objective, or when there is a clear & significant public need.</p>	
Soils and Water	Maintain soil productivity, minimize man-caused erosion, & maintain vegetation condition & plant vigor for watershed protection. Maintain water quality & quantity for resource needs.	
Fire	Use fire management techniques that maintain the ACEC values. Wildfire suppression would generally not occur unless needed to protect ACEC values.	
Access	Provide administrative & public access where needed for ACEC management. Maintenance will be provided on only those roads needed for management purposes.	<p>Limit public access in Mockingbird Mesa, Sand & East Rock canyons to foot or horse only & restrict vehicle access to authorized vehicles only.</p> <p>Acquire administrative access into Sand & Yellowjacket canyons & Cannonball Mesa.</p>

APPENDIX TWO

Oil and Gas Lease Information Notices and Stipulations Within the San Juan/San Miguel Planning Area

Inside a separate ring binder on file at the San Juan Resource Area, Montrose District, and the Colorado State Office are CSO forms 3100-65 (A) and (B) (organized by ranges) for all public land within the area.

Form 3100-65 (A) was completed for all ranges in the area containing Federal minerals. Standard stipulation blocks were checked for all sections containing mineral rights (regardless of the amount of land in the section). If other resource values were present in the section, then additional columns may be checked. If in a given range and township only one special stipulation applied to a variety of sections, then that column may be checked and a stipulation noted in the space provided below. This stipulation would apply to all sections checked.

Form 3100-65 (B) was completed for all sections in the township and range needing additional clarification. The restriction column of the form is used to reference the user to this section which contains the specific stipulations and supporting narrative for the restriction. The referencing for the user will take the following form.

The restriction will read:
Stipulation NO. 1

Stipulation number one refers to this section which contains all lease stipulations and information notices to be used.

The following oil and gas lease information notices and stipulations have been developed from impact assessment associated with the Final EIS:

1. Mule Deer and Elk Crucial Winter Ranges

Information Notice: To protect important seasonal wildlife habitat, exploration, drilling, and other developmental activity will be allowed only from April 16 to November 30 on crucial mule deer and elk winter ranges. This limitation does not apply to maintenance and operation of producing wells. Exceptions to this limitation in any year may be specifically authorized in writing by BLM's Authorized Officer.

Narrative: These areas (248,890 acres) are crucial mule deer and elk winter ranges, key concentration areas that support and sustain a large percentage of the total wintering populations. They are extremely important for animal survival during harsh winters. Disturbance may place unnecessary stress on wintering big game herds and cause undue mortality of mature animals and the following season's fawn and calf crop (see FEIS, Fig. 2-3).

2. Sage Grouse Strutting Grounds

Information Notice: To protect important seasonal wildlife habitat, exploration, drilling, and other developmental activity will be allowed only from May 16 to March 14 on sage grouse strutting grounds. This limitation does not apply to maintenance and operation of producing wells. Exceptions to this limitation in any year may be specifically authorized in writing by BLM's Authorized Officer.

Narrative: Strutting activities in these areas (2,920 acres) are a crucial period in the life cycle of sage grouse. Human disturbance or harassment during this time may disrupt the breeding cycle and result in a decline in population (see FEIS, Fig. 2-4).

3. Bald Eagle Winter Concentration Areas - (under the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act and Threatened and Endangered Species Act)

Stipulation: To protect important seasonal wildlife habitat, exploration, drilling, and other developmental activity will be allowed only during the period from April 16 to November 30 on bald eagle winter concentration areas. This limitation does not apply to maintenance and operation of producing wells. Exceptions to this limitation in any year may be specifically authorized in writing by BLM's Authorized Officer.

Narrative: These areas (53,020 acres) have been identified as roosting, perching, or feeding areas for bald eagles. Human intrusion into these areas could lead to illegally shooting the birds or causing the birds to abandon the area. Excessive surface disturbance could cause the destruction of primary feeding areas (see FEIS, Fig. 2-4).

4. Critical Peregrine Falcon Nesting Habitat (Perins Peak and Mesa Verde National Park)

Stipulation: No Surface Occupancy. Operations on these lands will not be approved in order to protect critical peregrine falcon habitat.

Narrative: This land (2,600 acres) has been identified as critical habitat for peregrine falcons, a Federally listed endangered species. Human intrusion into these areas could lead to illegally shooting of birds or could cause birds to abandon the area. Disturbances during the nesting period could cause missed feedings of young with subsequent mortality (see FEIS, Fig. 2-4).

5. Important Peregrine Falcon Nesting Habitat (Paradox Valley Area)

Stipulation: To protect important seasonal wildlife habitat, exploration, drilling, and other developmental activity will be allowed only from September 1 to February 28 on important peregrine falcon habitat. This limitation does not apply to maintenance and operation of producing wells. Exceptions to this limitation in any year may be specifically authorized in writing by the Authorized Officer.

Narrative: This land (2,160 acres) has been identified as critical habitat for peregrine falcons, a Federally listed endangered species. Human intrusion into these areas could lead to illegally shooting of birds or could cause birds to abandon the area. Disturbances during the nesting period could cause missed feedings of young with subsequent mortality (see FEIS, Fig. 2-4).

6. Elk Calving Area

Information Notice: To protect important seasonal wildlife habitat, exploration, drilling, and other developmental activity will be allowed only from July 16 to April 30 on elk calving areas. This limitation does not apply to maintenance and operation of producing wells. Exceptions to this limitation in any year may be specifically authorized in writing by BLM's Authorized Officer.

Narrative: These important areas (9,700 acres) have been identified by BLM and DOW. The reproductive season is a crucial period in the life cycle of these species. Disturbances during this period may create unnecessary stress and reduce herd productivity (see FEIS, Fig. 2-3).

7. Dolores River Canyon

Stipulation: The Dolores River Canyon is receiving special management for its significant recreational and visual values. No surface occupancy on the described lands will be approved unless it is shown to the satisfaction of the authorized officer that the objectives of such special management can still be met.

Narrative: These portions of the Dolores River Canyon (21,600 acres) contain significant recreational and visual values. The no surface occupancy stipulation is meant to protect the main portion and viewshed of the Dolores River Canyon. The viewshed is portrayed on the maps on file in the San Juan Resource Area. Operations proposed on the described lands will not be approved, unless it is shown to BLM's Authorized Officer's satisfaction that the stipulation objective can still be met.

8. McElmo Research Natural Area (RNA)(400 acres)

Stipulation: The McElmo Research Natural Area is receiving special management for its important habitat for rare species of flora and fauna. No surface occupancy on the described lands will be approved unless it is shown to the satisfaction of the authorized officer that the objectives of such special management can still be met.

Narrative: This RNA contains important habitat for rare species of flora and fauna. Disturbance could disrupt ongoing research in the area.

9. Menefee and Weber Mountains

Stipulation: Menefee and Weber Mountains are receiving special management for their important recreational and visual values. No surface occupancy on the described lands will be approved unless it is shown to the satisfaction of the authorized officer that the objectives of such special management can still be met.

Narrative: These two mountains (encompassing 8,720 acres) contain unique roadless, backcountry values. Lying within view of Mesa Verde National Park, these extremely steep and rugged mountains have been closed to off-road vehicles. To protect these values, the public lands will be leased but with a no surface occupancy stipulation. Operations proposed on the described lands will not be approved unless it is shown to BLM's Authorized Officer's satisfaction that the stipulation objective can still be met.

10. **Sand and East Rock Canyons** (5,880 acres)

Stipulation: The Sand and East Rock Canyon areas are receiving special management for their important archeological values. No surface occupancy on the described lands will be approved unless it is shown to the satisfaction of the authorized officer that the objectives of such special management can still be met.

Narrative: This area was nominated to the NRHP in 1977 but has not yet been acted upon. BLM's San Juan Resource Area Office has a copy of this nomination as submitted. The sites included in these canyons qualify for eligibility to the National Register under criteria (a) and (d) (see FEIS, Table 4-2). The information they may yield is related to the final Anasazi occupations. Many of the sites possess unique astronomical associations and pose defensive orientations. Special operating stipulations and NSO stipulations have been in effect in these canyons since they were proposed for protective withdrawal in 1972. Due to the topographically prohibitive nature of much of the canyon area, access has been limited and many of the significant cultural values remain minimally disturbed. Where vehicle access has occurred, site monitoring has revealed accelerated structural deterioration, erosion, and vandalism. The NSO stipulation will eliminate the detrimental effects of vehicle access into the area and maintain the integrity and association of the cultural values free from added intrusion and setting alteration. Under 43 CFR Public Land Order No. 6563 (effective August 22, 1984), Sand Canyon Archaeological Site (4,886 acres) was withdrawn from surface entry and mining to protect the archaeological values for 20 years (however, the lands will remain open to mineral leasing).

11. **Cannonball Ruin** (80 acres)

Stipulation: No Surface Occupancy. Operations on these lands will not be approved in order to protect the Cannonball Ruin Archeological site.

Narrative: This complex is currently withdrawn from all mineral entry and was recognized regionally and nationally as important in the archaeologic literature as early as 1919. Cannonball Ruin has been nominated to the NRHP, under criteria (c) and (d) (see FEIS, Table 4-2), as it is an established research site and is representative of the large canyon head pueblotype complex. NSO stipulations are necessary to avoid direct physical damage to this ruin complex and significant scientific data loss.

12. **Lowry Ruin & Associations** (240 acres)

Stipulation: No Surface Occupancy. Operations on these lands will not be approved in order to protect the Lowry Ruin Archeological site.

Narrative: This site is a National Historic Landmark, is currently listed on the NRHP, and is under a protective withdrawal. A NSO stipulation would continue to protect the site and its associated surroundings, which are also considered eligible to the NRHP under criteria (a), (c), and (d) (see FEIS, Table 4-2).

13. **Dominguez-Escalante Ruins** (40 acres)

Stipulation: No Surface Occupancy. Operations on these lands will not be approved in order to protect the Dominguez-Escalante Ruins Archeological site and the Anasazi Heritage Center.

Narrative: Escalante Ruin is listed on the NRHP and the Dominguez-Escalante complex (associated with the ruin) is in the process of formal eligibility determination. The area encompassing this complex is currently protected by an administrative withdrawal and is the site of the Anasazi Heritage Center to be completed in the fall of 1985. A NSO stipulation is in effect to protect the site.

14. **Tabeguache Cave II and Tabeguache Canyon** (560 acres)

Stipulation: No Surface Occupancy. Operations on these lands will not be approved in order to protect the Tabeguache Canyon Archeological site.

Narrative: Tabeguache Cave II lies within Tabeguache Canyon, where research has contributed significant information

about the prehistory of the area (criteria a and d) (see FEIS, Table 4-2). A high potential for such additional data at numerous sites within the canyon exists. The eligibility of this canyon to the NRHP has been evaluated and supported based on existing research data. A portion of the area has been proposed for status as an Outstanding Natural Area (ONA) and is confined topographically. There is currently no vehicle access into much of the canyon and, as a result, many sites remain in pristine condition. Occupancy of the canyon by oil and gas leasing operations and the associated access would destroy much of the scientific value of the sites within the canyon, their association, and their setting—all important values that qualify this district for National Register listing. A NSO stipulation is necessary to protect these values.

15. **Dolores Cave** (60 acres)

Stipulation: No Surface Occupancy. Operations on these lands will not be approved in order to protect the Dolores Cave Archeological site.

Narrative: This site has been researched and possesses data that make it eligible to the NRHP under criteria (a) and (d) (see FEIS, Table 4-2). The site has not been formally nominated due to both a lack of budget and personnel. A NSO stipulation will protect the shelter and immediate area from physical damage.

16. **Bull Canyon Rockshelter** (5 acres)

Stipulation: No Surface Occupancy. Operations on these lands will not be approved in order to protect the Bull Canyon Rockshelter Archeological site.

Narrative: This site has been evaluated and is considered eligible to the NRHP under criteria (c) and (d) (see FEIS, Table 4-2), evidencing a rare and important paleoindian occupation. A NSO stipulation will protect the physical remains of this site.

17. **Tabeguache Pueblo** (120 acres)

Stipulation: No Surface Occupancy. Operations on these lands will not be approved in order to protect the Tabeguache Pueblo Archeological site.

Narrative: Information gained from research done at this site (120 acres) qualifies it for NRHP listing under criteria (c) and (d) (see FEIS, Table 4-2). A NSO stipulation will protect the site and its immediate associations from intrusion and physical damage.

18. **McLean Basin Towers** (80 acres)

Stipulation: No Surface Occupancy. Operations on these lands will not be approved in order to protect the McLean Basin Towers Archeological site.

Narrative: This site has been proposed for nomination to the NRHP under criteria (c) and (d) (see FEIS, Table 4-2), and is currently under a protective withdrawal. A NSO stipulation continues to protect the site and immediate area from damage.

19. **Squaw/Papoose, Cross, and Cahone Canyons** (23,420 acres)

Stipulation: The Squaw/Papoose, Cross, and Cahone Canyon areas are receiving special management for their important Archeological values. No surface occupancy on the described lands will be approved unless it is shown to the satisfaction of the authorized officer that the objectives of such special management can still be met.

Narrative: These areas, together with Cow Mesa, are topographically constrained areas of unique and nationally significant cultural values. A wide range of site types and prehistoric and historic uses are represented in these canyon and mesa habitats. Of the recorded sites in the canyon and Cow Mesa areas, more than 90 percent are considered eligible or potentially eligible under criteria (a), (c), and (d) (see FEIS, Table 4-2). Potentially eligible sites have surface indications of being significant, but final determination must be made by testing or excavation. The NSO stipulation proposed here would preserve the integrity and association of the Anasazi sites and cultural resource (prehistoric and historic) settings in the last remaining undisturbed canyons and mesa tops used by the Anasazi on public land in southwest Colorado. Analysis of the relationships between prehistoric sites and the progression of historic Euro-American and Native American sites in these canyons have immense scientific and public value. The absence or alteration of this setting and association will destroy many of the qualities that qualify them for NRHP listing.

20. **Painted Hand Petroglyphs** (120 acres)

Stipulation: No Surface Occupancy. Operations on these lands will not be approved in order to protect the Painted Hand Petroglyphs Archeological site.

Narrative: This site is considered eligible to the NRHP under criteria (c) and (d) (see FEIS, Table 4-2). It currently is protected from mineral entry by an administrative withdrawal. The NSO stipulation would preserve the site from disturbance and intrusion.

21. **Painted Hand Ruin** (80 acres)

Stipulation: No Surface Occupancy. Operations on these lands will not be approved in order to protect the Painted Hand Ruin Archeological site.

Narrative: A NSO stipulation on this site is needed to protect its physical remains and relevant habitat. Painted Hand Ruin has been evaluated as eligible for the NRHP under criterion (d) (see FEIS, Table 4-2).

22. **Indian Henry's Cabin** (160 acres)

Stipulation: No Surface Occupancy. Operations on these lands will not be approved in order to protect the Indian Henry's Cabin Archeological site.

Narrative: This historic site is considered eligible to the NRHP under criterion (b) (see FEIS, Table 4-2). A NSO stipulation will protect the area occupied by this historic figure.

23. **Lightning Tree Tower Group** (160 acres)

Stipulation: No Surface Occupancy. Operations on these lands will not be approved in order to protect the Lightning Tree Tower Group Archeological site.

Narrative: This interrelated complex of Anasazi sites has been evaluated as eligible for the NRHP under criteria (c) and (d) (see FEIS, Table 4-2). A NSO stipulation on this site complex will protect it from physical impacts and will also maintain its integrity.

24. **Buffer for Hovenweep National Monument** (600 acres)

Stipulation: The area adjoining the Horseshoe House/Holly House segment of the Hovenweep National Monument is receiving special management to protect the setting of the archeological resource. No surface occupancy on the described lands will be approved unless it is shown to the satisfaction of the authorized officer that the objectives of such special management can still be met.

Narrative: This 1/4-mile wide corridor surrounding the Horseshoe House/Holly House segment of Hovenweep National Monument is proposed for a NSO stipulation to protect the setting of this significant archaeologic resource (currently managed by the National Park Service).

25. **Battle Rock** (40 acres)

Stipulation: No Surface Occupancy. Operations on these lands will not be approved in order to protect the Battle Rock Archeological site.

Narrative: A NSO stipulation is necessary to protect this area of significant cultural value. A large sandstone monolith rising several hundred feet above the McElmo drainage floodplain, this rock is mentioned in local Apache and Navajo folklore and as such is an established Native American cultural site. Battle Rock is considered eligible to the NRHP under criteria (a) and (d) (see FEIS, Table 4-2). (In addition, BLM is also mandated by the 1979 Archaeological Resources Protection Act to preserve all sites sacred to Native American groups.)

26. **Easter Ruin** (80 acres)

Stipulation: No Surface Occupancy. Operations on these lands will not be approved in order to protect the Easter Ruin Archeological site.

Narrative: This large pueblo site is considered eligible to the NRHP under criteria (c) and (d) (see FEIS, Table 4-2) and is proposed for NSO stipulations to protect the physical remains of the site and its canyon associations.

27. **Seven Towers Ruin Group** (40 acres)

Stipulation: No Surface Occupancy. Operations on these lands will not be approved in order to protect the Seven Towers Ruin Group Archeological site.

Narrative: This group of related archaeologic sites lies on Mockingbird Mesa and is considered eligible for inclusion on the NRHP under criteria (c) and (d) (see FEIS, Table 4-2), and as a related part of the Mockingbird Mesa Archaeological District. A NSO stipulation would protect the large ruin at the canyonhead and its associated sites and features from physical damage.

APPENDIX THREE

ORV Limitations

Limitation	Plan (acres)
<u>Open</u>	786,439
<u>Limited to Designated Roads and Trails</u>	
Recreation	
Silverton SRMA	51,180
Cultural	
Mockingbird Mesa	5,327
Bull Canyon	5
Indian Henry's Cabin	160
Sand and East Rock canyons	5,880
Soils and Water	
Disappointment Valley	46,000
Subtotal	108,552
<u>Closed</u>	
Recreation	
Dolores SRMA	22,464
Weber Mountain	4,680
Menefee Mountain	4,040
Wilderness	
Dolores WSA	28,539
Cultural	
Cross Canyon	13,913
Cahone Canyon	9,498
Squaw/Papoose Canyon	8,415
Tabeguache Creek Canyon	3,200
Wildlife	
Perins Peak/ Animas Mtn.	3,200
Subtotal	99,009
Total	994,000